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WORLD OF SPORT

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TODAY

Housing Ministry ignoring settler squatters

HERB KEINON

SETTLERS have squatted in "hundreds" of vacant Housing Ministry homes in settlements throughout the territories, with the Housing Ministry apparently turning a blind eye, *The Jerusalem Post* has learned.

Earlier this week, residents of the small settlement of Ma'aleh Hever in the Hebron Hills held a dedication ceremony for a new Housing Ministry-built neighborhood they have not yet been permitted to move into. But according to one Ma'aleh Hever resident, some 12 young couples have moved into the homes over the last few weeks.

Both settlement and Peace Now sources say that the phenomenon is widespread, and that settlers have squatted in hundreds of homes in their settlements, which the Housing Ministry refuses to rent or sell because of the government's freeze on settlement building. Construction of these units was begun under the Likud government.

Most of these apartments have official utility connections, though in some cases connections have been rigged up by the squatters, with help from the settlement.

Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer told the Knesset Finance Committee last week that there are currently 3,300 empty housing units in the settlements, and that there have been only 350 requests to rent or buy them.

Ma'aleh Hever has increased (Continued on Page 2)

Regional bank to take off today

THE Amman economic conference will end today with the announcement of the establishment of a Middle East development bank.

US officials said the draft of the articles of agreement on the bank are nearly complete. The institution, called the Bank for Economic Cooperation and Development in the Middle East and North Africa, will be located in Cairo and begin with \$5 billion of capital.

Full reports, Pages 8 and 12.

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Montreal resident Susan Raymer casts her ballot in the predominantly English-speaking polling station of Westmount-St. Louis in yesterday's Quebec referendum. Story, Page 5. (Reuters)

3 gunmen killed, 7 SLA soldiers wounded in fierce zone fighting

'Most extensive exchanges since Operation Accountability'

DAVID RUDGE

THREE Hizbullah gunmen were killed and seven South Lebanese Army soldiers were wounded yesterday during clashes in south Lebanon.

UNIFIL spokesman Timur Goksel said the exchanges were the fiercest and most extensive in nearly six years, excluding Operation Accountability in 1993.

At least two Lebanese civilians from villages north of the security zone were also wounded in the exchanges, which lasted for over 14 hours.

The IDF Spokesman said the three gunmen were killed in a clash with SLA troops in the western sector of the zone early in the morning. The troops were on patrol when they spotted the gunmen, who were apparently on their way to carry out an attack near Dibble village inside the zone.

The spokesman said the SLA soldiers surrounded the area and charged the gunmen, who were

armed with light weapons and heavy machine guns, during the course of the fighting in the western sector. IDF and SLA gunmen responded with over 400 rounds of artillery and tank fire.

The UN sources said three artillery rounds exploded in the Irish battalion's headquarters in Tibnin village, just north of the zone, causing damage but no casualties.

Later, the fighting spread to the Rehban region in the eastern sector of the zone, following a roadside bomb attack there. IDF gunners, according to reports from Lebanon, blasted suspected Hizbullah targets in the region and north of the zone in response.

Four of the SLA soldiers wounded were reportedly brought to hospitals in Israel.

The fighting died down last night, although the atmosphere in the region remained very tense, with all sides reported on full alert.

Budget debate begins, vote expected tomorrow

LIAT COLLINS

WITH a noisy debate, the Knesset yesterday began its discussions on the 1996 budget, whose first reading is expected to be voted on tomorrow, after all MKs have had the chance to express their reservations.

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat opened the debate yesterday by saying that Israel has never had such a high standard of living as today. "Everything has grown: education, immigration, construction," said Shohat.

"Even the debt has grown," Likud MK Michael Eitan interjected.

In both the plenum debate and the Labor faction meeting that preceded it, Shohat said the economy had developed because of the mass immigration and the peace process, which has opened new markets and increased foreign investors' faith in Israel.

He also noted the national debt had dropped in comparison to the gross national product. "There is money for education, infrastructure, research..." he said.

Shohat rejected opposition claims that he had presented an election-year budget. "This is not an election-year budget. For the past three years we've been operating a responsible budget with good results," he said.

The rate of inflation in 1995 is expected to be around 8%, the lowest in 25 years. "There has never been such growth as in the past three years. However, I must warn all of us that this 'having' is not to be taken for granted," Shohat said.

He said the main steps that should be taken next year are: a reduction in the budget deficit; increased expenditure on education and social services to weak populations; reduced taxation; high investment in infrastructure such as roads and sewage lines, and in tourism and industry; privatization of public companies; and structural changes to encourage growth and competition, which would reduce prices.

Shohat stressed that by 1996 (Continued on Page 3)

Levy may face charges of violating rehab terms

RAINE MARCUS

FORMER Shas MK Yair Levy may be liable to criminal charges for violating the terms of his prisoner rehabilitation program, Police Ministry comptroller Alex Ish-Shalom said yesterday.

Ish-Shalom announced yesterday that he had submitted his report on the investigation into whether criminal charges can be filed against Levy to the State Attorney's Office.

Levy's case was one of many issues investigated in the report. Ish-Shalom said Levy had received preferential treatment while serving a four-year sentence for embezzling NIS 300,000 from Shas's El Hamayan association. His cell was better than others, he left prison for furloughs even before he was eligible for leave, and would return late, the report found, noting that he was not punished for (Continued on Page 3)

High Court overturns state comptroller's report on Turner

RAINE MARCUS
and LIAT COLLINS

A BATTLE between Police Minister Moshe Shahal and former police inspector-general Ya'acov Turner erupted following yesterday's High Court of Justice ruling upholding the latter's petition. The petition sought to void a report by State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat regarding the events which led to Turner's forced resignation two-and-a-half years ago.

It was the first time the High Court had ever overturned a state comptroller's report.

The court ruled 4-1 that there were defects in the report, which stated that Turner had lied about conducting discussions with Labor Party officials about entering politics while he was still in uniform.

Justices Eliezer Goldberg, Eliahu Mazza, Mishael Cheshin, and Dalia Dornier said Turner should have been given a chance to examine the evidence against him before the report was released. Former court president Meir Shamgar dissented.

While Turner said that yesterday was probably the happiest of his life and that he was pleased he had waged the long legal battle, Shahal called him a liar and accused him of falsifying evidence.

"Instead of being happy, it would probably be better if Turner stopped lying. Maybe he will learn his lesson now," he said.



Ben-Porat: I did what I did with a clean conscience. (Flash 90)

When he heard that Turner is planning to embark on a political career, Shahal said he had hoped a better quality of person would enter politics.

The controversy began in March 1993, when Shahal forced Turner into early retirement over his discussions with Labor Party secretary-general Nissim Zivili about the possibility of his running for Tel Aviv mayor.

Shahal ousted him for trying to enter politics while still in uniform, calling him a "political inspector-general."

Turner said at the time that Shahal had wanted him out because he refused to replace the team of detectives investigating

former interior minister Aryeh Deri on corruption charges.

In her report, which was requested by the Knesset State Control Committee, Ben-Porat wrote that Shahal had told the truth and Turner had lied.

In response, Turner said he had not been given a fair chance to defend himself, since he was not allowed to examine material against him. He then petitioned the High Court, seeking to overturn Ben-Porat's ruling.

The court agreed, declaring the report null and void.

The justices did not refer to the sequence of events leading up to the report or to its findings, but said the law obligates even the state comptroller to allow an examination of the evidence, especially if a person's reputation might be damaged.

In his dissent, Shamgar said that "the High Court should not step into the shoes of the state comptroller."

Shahal said the ruling was "procedural only," and insisted that Turner had lied when he claimed to have been ousted because Shahal had tried to intervene in the Deri investigation.

"The High Court's decision was based only on legal principles, and in this case, is similar to a criminal who is caught 'red handed,' but acquitted simply because of procedural defects during his arrest," he said. "I stand by my earlier statement that political inspectors-general are absolutely forbidden."

Turner said that he has no intention of taking the case further. (Continued on Page 3)

All agree that First International Bank leads

Recent reports penned on the financial prowess of the First International Bank

"Ha'aretz" mutual fund survey:
"Only one bank managed to outshine the other banks - the First International Bank. A review of the equity-oriented funds shows that their yield was far higher than those of other banks. Indeed, over the past five years, the First International Bank's largest share-oriented mutual fund Mor has provided the highest yield within the mutual fund sector - 217.1% or 26% of annual real terms." Ha'aretz, 2/7/95

First International Bank provident and mutual funds top Globes 1994 rating.
"Ahead of all other banks, in periods of boom and bust, at both high and low risk" Globes, January 1995

"Risk Versus Yield - The First International Bank Leads" Bank of Israel staff measured the bank's entire range of risks according to the standard deviation of its investment returns - a relatively long period (from 1980 to 1994) between 1980 and 1994.

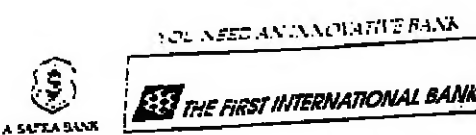
"The First International Bank achieved an average profitability of nearly 10% over the past nine years, when it provided the safest investment in the banking system, with a standard deviation of almost zero." Ha'aretz, 2/7/95

A report by Baring Securities of London on the Israeli capital market states: "The First International Bank is innovative and aggressive, strong loan and deposit growth should continue...one of the most profitable banks...with a balanced credit portfolio...FBI is in the best position to weather the forthcoming structural changes in the banking sector." Ha'aretz, 2/7/95

Teachers choose First International Bank The advanced study fund management... Israel Teachers Federation... Elementary School Teachers Association... transferred the management of their pension fund to the First International Bank Group... involves a total of NIS 2.5 billion... Ha'aretz, 2/7/95

A report on the Israeli banking system by Farman and Selig of New York states: "The First International Bank is a national versus international bank...a national bank...with a reputation for...a relatively long period (from 1980 to 1994) between 1980 and 1994."

Bank of Israel staff choose the First International Bank Bank of Israel employees have chosen the First International Bank Group to manage their provident fund deposits. Ha'aretz, 2/7/95



Redeployment maps redrawn due to errors

CHIEF of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak yesterday authorized the IDF's proposed amendments to the redeployment maps after many errors - some technical and some substantive - were found when maps were matched with real ground conditions, a senior army source said last night.

Entire portions of some of the maps had to be redrawn after it was discovered that Palestinian villages which were meant to be included in Area B (in which the Palestinians are to have administrative control) were actually in Area C (Israeli-controlled territory), while segments of bypass roads actually ran through Area B.

ALON PINKAS

One road in the Wadi Dolev area meant to bypass Ramallah was found to run through Area A, which is under full Palestinian control.

The new maps will be presented to the Palestinian Authority for approval, since they constitute an amendment to the signed Oslo 2 agreement.

Earlier this month, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that the Hebron bypass road would have to be redrawn after engineers found that the road would cut through 16 houses inhabited by two large families.

The source cited several other examples of errors: The biblical

palace of King Ahab near Sebastia, in Samaria, which should have remained under Israeli control, was delineated on the map in yellow as being in Area B. The old Sephardic cemetery in Hebron was mistakenly delineated as being under Palestinian rule. Also, villages in the Ramallah area which should have been in Area B appeared on the maps in Area C.

A senior army officer yesterday downplayed the significance of the changes, saying they are not major.

"These things are a fact of life. The area is intricately detailed in the agreement and it was inevitable that mistakes would be made," he said.



Firefighters douse a simulated plane wreck during a large-scale emergency exercise at Ben-Gurion Airport yesterday also involving 80 ambulances, Homefront Command soldiers, and police.

(Alon Ror/Israel Sun)

Travel restrictions placed on Gazans

JON IMMANUEL and Itim

THE IDF yesterday raised the age threshold for Gaza workers entering Israel from 30 to 35 and barred the entry of students, to guard against potential attackers seeking revenge for last week's killing of Islamic Jihad leader Fathi Shkaki.

At the same time it is forbidding Jerusalem and West Bank Palestinians from entering Gaza.

Trucks will not be allowed to leave Gaza, but produce can be transferred to Israeli trucks at the checkpoints.

Israel Radio said heightened security measures were in place at Israeli embassies abroad and at Jewish sites, to prevent an Islamic Jihad

strike outside of Israel.

Incidents yesterday included stone-throwing in Nablus and renewed disturbances in Hebron and Abu Dis, where the Islamic movements are strong.

The cabinet was briefed yesterday by security officials on the possible implications on internal security from the Shkaki assassination.

Attending the session were Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz, the head of the General Security Service, and deputy chief of

staff Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i.

Security officials told the ministers they were gathering information on the plans by Islamic Jihad to avenge Shkaki's death.

Police Minister Moshe Shaleh said after the session that he did "not think that Shkaki's assassination would affect the peace process."

If there is any influence, he added, "it could only be positive."

He said he believed the dispute among the rejectionist factions was probably responsible for the murder.

Shaleh said the Palestinian Authority must take immediate steps to ensure that no terrorist attacks are carried out against Israel.

How will Shkaki's death change Jihad?

BACKGROUND

JON IMMANUEL

THE destructive career of Fathi Shkaki had its roots less in Islam than in the prescribed reading of many radical-chic university students in the 1960s, especially the writings of existentialist philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre and Franz Fanon's *The Wretched of the Earth*.

This marked out for Shkaki a different path than that of Hamas, the larger and more traditional Islamic radical movement, despite his later medical training at the Islamic University of Gaza in Egypt. His success was to encourage Hamas to become more violent through Islamic Jihad's campaign of killing in the mid-'80s, which so enthralled religious youth in the months leading to the intifada in 1987, just before Shkaki was expelled to Lebanon.

The movement which became Hamas believed first in Islamic renewal and only later directed its energies against Israel, but Islamic Jihad was a violent movement from the beginning. Its Islam was eclectic. Though Sunni, it looked to Shi'ite Iran for inspiration. Though religious, it worked for a while with the quasi-Marxist PLO to use violence to compel the IDF to crack down on Palestinian society, thus radicalizing it.

Islamic Jihad's pro-Iranian leanings alone ensured that it could never become a mass religious movement in Palestinian society. Yet it became an inspiration for Hamas and the PLO by

its daring attacks on soldiers and prison escapes.

It inspired so well that in recent years it fell behind the larger Hamas in acts of terror. Hamas has also drawn closer to Iran.

In this way, Shkaki succeeded in radicalizing traditional Islamic movements. But while the PLO's main Fatah faction, once negotiations with Israel began, understood that violence is only useful up to a point, Islamic Jihad saw violence as the way to define the identity of the "wretched of the earth" which Israel and the peace process had erased.

Islamic Jihad has continued its own ultra-violent intifada. Fatah has withdrawn from it and even Hamas, whose roots are in Islam, not in violence, may be about to acquiesce for the sake of survival.

The question is whether Islamic Jihad will now stop the violence, which in recent months has been steadily losing it the support of Palestinians.

Shkaki would not have done so. His successor Ramadan Shalah might. Some who know him consider him relatively pragmatic in comparison with Shkaki.

In recent months, Shkaki seemed to be losing prestige in the movement. Gaza's best known Jihad activist, Sheikh Abdullah Shami, left Gaza Central Prison in April after three months of Palestinian Police in-

terrogation, saying the time had come to "reassess" the use of violence to avoid confrontation with the Palestinian Authority.

Shkaki demanded clarification

and denied any change in policy. But then he came under attack by Islamic Jihad in Beirut for financial mismanagement. Could economist Shalah, based in Beirut, have been involved? These things suggest that the future way of Islamic Jihad is open to change.

New Jihad head was active in Britain, US

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

RAMADAN: Abdallah Shalah, the veteran member of Islamic Jihad who has succeeded the murdered Fathi Shkaki as its head, remained involved with the group while living in Britain and the US since the mid-1980s. He returned to the region only this summer.

Shalah, 37, a Gaza native, had, with Shkaki, helped found Islamic Jihad in Egypt, while the two were students there. The group was responsible for the murder of Egyptian president Anwar Sadat in 1981.

After the two returned to Gaza, they founded Islamic Jihad in Palestine, which they co-directed for a time. During this period, Shalah was a lecturer at Al-Azhar University.

In 1984, he left Gaza and continued his studies in economics and political science in Egypt and the US. In 1986, he moved to Britain, where he completed his doctorate in economics. He remained there until 1991.

During this period, Shalah was the contact man between Jihad operatives in Europe and the territories. Together with Bashir Nafsa, Shalah headed the organization's British office, which funneled money to the territories. He also drafted most of the leaflets the group distributed in the territories.

Shalah then moved to the US, where he headed the World Islamic Exploration Center in Tampa, Florida. Shalah, who has three children, is now said to divide his time between Lebanon and Syria.

NEWS IN BRIEF

'Engineer's' mother allowed house arrest

The Ramallah Military Court yesterday said it would agree to house arrest for Aisha Ayyash, the mother of Yihye Ayyash, the bomb maker known as "The Engineer." The mother is charged with using forged documents to enter Gaza.

The court cited the woman's age, 55, and her health, as the reason for its decision. But the court delayed the release until today to give the prosecution a chance to appeal it.

On Thursday, the court had ordered her released to house arrest following a lengthy investigation. But on Sunday, the prosecution presented the indictment against her, and asked that she be held until the end of legal proceedings.

Itim

Woman murdered possibly for 'honor'

The body of a Palestinian woman was found hanging from a tree yesterday, and villagers said she may have been killed by a male relative for "damaging the family honor."

Villagers said the body of the 35-year-old woman, Widad who was married with four children, was taken from the village of Bala, near Nablus, to Haifa for an autopsy.

The villagers believed the killing was carried out to protect the family's honor and said she was suspected of having an affair.

(AP)

Shuafat man killed by cement-mixer

A 74-year-old resident of the Shuafat refugee camp in Jerusalem was killed yesterday when he was hit by a cement-mixer while crossing the street. Police said the driver was speeding.

In Boei Brak, a 15-year-old was very seriously injured when a car ran up onto the traffic island on which he was standing and knocked him into the street, where he was hit by a truck. The driver of the car was questioned and released.

Three men were injured, one seriously and two moderately, when the car in which they were traveling hit a bus while trying to pass it on the right at the Komemiy junction, near Kiryat Malachi.

Itim

Hebron Jews try to enter casbah

The IDF kept about 100 Hebron and Kiryat Arba Jews trying to "break the walls of the ghetto" from entering the city's casbah last night.

It is inconceivable, said Hebron settlement head Noam Arnon, "that Arabs can walk wherever they want in the city, while Jews are confined to their neighborhoods."

This is the third time in a week that the settlement has organized "patrols" through Hebron to show a presence, and Arnon said such patrols will continue.

After being denied entry to the casbah, the Jews marched to the tomb of Otniel Ben-Knaz located in another part of the city.

Herb Keinson

Arafat: PNC to amend charter in Gaza after elections

DAVID MAKOVSKY

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat has already asked Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to guarantee that all members of the Palestinian National Council (PNC) living abroad will be allowed to enter Gaza after the Palestinian elections, to attend a session that will amend the 1964 PLO Charter that calls for Israel's destruction.

Arafat revealed this in a meeting with a group of American Jews in New York last week, a source who was at the session said.

At the time of the signing of the Oslo 2 agreement, Arafat committed himself to

having the PNC amend its charter within two months of a new Palestinian Council being inaugurated after elections in the territories. It is believed that balloting will take place on January 20.

According to the source, Arafat told former chairmen of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations that Rabin had not yet replied to his request. Aides to Rabin said yesterday that he has not yet decided if he will

allow all the members of the PNC to enter for purposes of amending the charter.

The last time that the PNC convened was in September 1991 in Algiers, when Arafat won approval to permit a Palestinian delegation from the territories to represent the Palestinian people at the Middle East peace conference in Madrid.

Arafat also told the US Jewish leaders he expected no progress in negotiations on the final disposition of the territories next

year, as it is an election year in Israel. Those negotiations are slated to begin in May and conclude no later than May 1999.

The source indicated that Arafat reiterated his belief that the final peace agreement will result in a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation, to be concluded by 1997.

However, Arafat said an American television interviewer last week that he expects statehood within two years. Arafat has previously said that confederation does not preclude statehood, but will be the linking of two sovereign states.

IDF, PA police disagree on Jenin redeployment procedure

LAMIA LAHOUD

A DISPUTE between the Palestinian Authority and Israel over the way 20 Palestinian Police officers arrive in Jenin is delaying the implementation of redeployment, high-ranking PA officers said yesterday.

The officers are the commanding police officers of the area and were to arrive in the city of Jenin on Sunday to tour the area with members of the IDF and work out the details of the deployment of their forces, according to a PA official.

PA officials insist the Pales-

tinian Police commander of the territories, Maj.-Gen. Haj Ismail Jabr, and OC Judea and Samaria Maj.-Gen. Gabi Ofir agreed that the officers would arrive in the center of Jenin in their Palestinian Police vehicles, then leave their cars and continue to the District Coordination Office, which opened last week.

Israel says that according to its understanding, the officers should arrive at the DCO and should travel from there to the city either in IDF vehicles or civilian cars.

SQUATTERS

(Continued from Page 1)

its population since the beginning of the summer by more than 50 percent, going from 16 to 27 families, and another three families are expected over the next two weeks. None of the families who moved into the Housing Ministry flats have bought them.

In Kiryat Arba, residents have squatted in 45 apartments over the past three months, according to a Kiryat Arba official. He said that rent is being paid to a body he would not identify, and that when the Housing Ministry okays the sale or rent of the apartments, the money will be turned over.

Housing Ministry spokeswoman Ofra Pless said that she does not know anything about the situation in Ma'aleh Hever, but that squatting in settlements is not a Housing Ministry concern, but rather that of the police.

Pless said she had no information about reports of widespread squatting in Housing Ministry property in the settlements.

Boaz Goldenberg, the spokesman for the Samaria and Judea Police District, said that although

the phenomenon exists, the police only act against squatters if they receive a complaint. Most complaints, he said, come from security guards located at the site. He said the police deal with "a number of such cases" each month.

Though the Housing Ministry officially denies having information on the matter, a Housing Ministry document obtained by *Peace Now* over the summer shows there have been 612 instances of people squatting in the empty apartments. This figure includes 44 in the settlement of Meitazad in Gush Etzion, 31 in Avnei Hefetz, 34 in Barkan, 31 in Yakir, 38 in Alei Zahav, and 83 in Eli - all in Samaria.

This does not include dozens of people who squatted in flats in Ariel, and to whom the government, after holding negotiations with Mayor Ron Nahman over the summer, agreed to sell the homes.

Peace Now yesterday charged that by ignoring the squatting incidents, Ben-Eliezer is "giving support to illegal acts."

Aloni blasts Karnei Shomron mall

HERB KEINON and Itim

Shomron, is being funded by an as yet unnamed Swiss investor.

Aloni was supported in her position in the cabinet by the other Meretz ministers. Rabin was backed by Housing Minister Hu-

yamin Ben-Eliezer and Justice Minister David Liba'i, who said there is no need for approval from the ministerial committee for every building that goes up in a settlement.

David Makovsky contributed to this report.



The Knesset

On Wednesday, November 1, 1995,

between 10:30 a.m. and 12 noon,

entrance to the following areas of the Knesset will be by invitation only: the main entrances to the Knesset, the Knesset plaza, the Speaker's entrance, the plenum, the special gallery, the public gallery, the lobby and the parking lots.



JEWISH NEW TESTAMENT PUBLICATIONS, INC.
congratulates Dr. David H. Stern,
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With great sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved mother and grandmother

SHIRLEY KRAICER

The funeral will take place today, Tuesday, October 31, 1995 (Heshvan 7, 5756), at 2:00 p.m. at the Holon cemetery, meeting at the main gate.

Son: Perry Kraicer and family
Daughter: Aviva Ben-Arye and family

Shiva at the Ben-Arye home, 23 Rehov Aluf David, Ramat Chen, Ramat Gan

הקואליציה

Yad Vashem gets photos of Lublin Ghetto

BATSHEVA TSUR

A POCKET-size photo album, containing rare snapshots from the Lublin Ghetto, has been received at Yad Vashem.

The album was in the possession of Holocaust survivor Zvi Hershkovitz, who discovered it after the war in a house used by the Germans.

Researchers at Yad Vashem believe that the pictures were taken and collected by a Wehrmacht soldier who sent them as a "souvenir" to his comrades. The album contains an inscription which reads: "Lublin, 10/5/1941. A modest memento to my girlfriends from Alfred."

It is becoming clear, the researchers say, that many German soldiers and civilians had in their possession pictures of Jews being persecuted or put to death, or simply depicting the misery of Jewish life under the Nazi regime. Among the many horrific pictures are the bodies of three Jews hanging in the central square of the ghetto.

The researchers say that the pictures of life and death in the Lublin Ghetto are unique.

At Yad Vashem, a groundbreaking ceremony will be held today for a new archive building. The new archives - gift of the Claims Conference - will be computerized.

The directorate of Yad Vashem yesterday renewed its appeal to persons who have kept written or photographed documentation of the Holocaust or who have other mementos, to donate them to the archives.



Micki Chatkin of Pittsburgh, (second from left), a member of the UJA President's Mission to Israel, poses yesterday with (left to right) Sarah Assassa, Orit Lervhabel, and Rivka Kabada, during a visit to the Ayanot Youth Village, near Rishon LeZion. (Brian Hendler)

Deputy A-G supports petition to retry Danny Katz murder case

JUSTICE Minister David Liba'i and Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair should support the request for a retrial filed by the five men convicted of the murder of Danny Katz in the early 1980s, according to a report submitted by Deputy Attorney-General Yehudit Karp.

Ben-Yair must decide whether to pass on the report's recommendation to Supreme Court President Aharon Barak, who is authorized to order a retrial.

Before doing so, he plans to give Karp's report to the prosecutors who won the conviction.

in the original murder trial in Haifa District Court in 1985, and to the attorney who successfully represented the prosecution when the five appealed.

Ben-Yair said he wants to get these attorneys' responses to Karp's findings and the doubts that she raises about the case.

He stressed yesterday that the Karp report does not establish the five's innocence, but only checked whether the request for a retrial might be valid.

Katz, 15, was abducted from his Haifa home in December 1983, sexually assaulted,

and strangled. His naked body was found lying in a forest. Five men from Sakhnin - Ahmed Kuzali, Samir Ganameh, Fathi Ganameh, Ali Ghneim, and Amr Sabih - were convicted of the murder and given life sentences.

The lawyer for the five, Avigdor Feldman, claims that the confessions upon which the convictions were based were extracted by force, and that the prosecution had no solid evidence to corroborate the confessions.

Karp has been reviewing the case for some three years.

Police grill Mercaz Hapoel officials

Chairman, director out on bail

RAINE MARCUS and MICHAEL YUDELMAN

THE chairman of the board of Mercat Hapoel, Yoram Oberkovitz, and Ya'acov Avimor, its director, were questioned by the police yesterday in connection with alleged illegal transfer of funds during the Histadrut elections 18 months ago. Both were released on bail late yesterday afternoon.

Several weeks ago police raided the Mercat Hapoel's headquarters and seized documents, and Oberkovitz and Avimor were informed they would be summoned for questioning.

The pair refused to talk to the press after their questioning. Avimor merely said that he hopes that justice will be done and that his "hands are clean."

The decision to question them was made after information was collected from various bodies which financed Haim Haberfeld's campaign. Police suspect that Mercat Hapoel was also involved in the financing.

Police also believe that money for Haberfeld's campaign was taken from Mercat Hapoel's advertising budget and fraudulently listed as advertising expenses.

Oberkovitz was also questioned about an insurance tender won by Avner Kopel, of the Or insurance company.

Avimor has been questioned in the past, and sources said that a confrontation between the two was staged.

National Police Investigations chief Cmdr. Yossi Levy arrived at the Fraud Squad headquarters for an update on the investigation, and said that yesterday's events were simply a continuation in the complex Histadrut affair.

Additional people will be summoned to give evidence, said police.

Meanwhile, the police have recently recommended to the State Attorney's Office that Haberfeld, former Histadrut treasurer Aram Yisraelovitz, and MK Avi Yehezkel be indicted for using Histadrut facilities and funds in the Histadrut and Labor Party primaries.

The investigation of Transport Minister Yisrael Kassar has yet to yield enough evidence to recommend indictment.

Detectives may fly to Austria to check whether a contribution by Austrian trade unions, used in Kassar's campaign, was really given for that purpose, as Yisraelovitz testified.

It has also been learned that the police have decided to stop investigating charges that Histadrut and Labor officials used Histadrut facilities for their election campaigns. The decision was taken last week.

The use of Histadrut facilities for campaign functions has been the prevalent norm, constituting acceptable conduct among senior politicians of several parties over the past decades. If pursued, this investigation might have taken years, and required the questioning of hundreds, perhaps thousands of politicians and functionaries.

The police therefore decided to concentrate on the misuse of large sums of money taken from the Histadrut to cover election expenses.

Bill would lengthen statute of limitations on sex crimes

Count would start when victim reaches 18

LIAT COLLINS

THE Knesset Law Committee yesterday endorsed for first reading a bill by Yitzhak Levy (National Religious Party) to change the statute of limitations on sex crimes because of the young age of many of the victims. Currently there is a 10-year limit; according to the bill the limit would start from the date the victim reached 18, not the date of the crime.

The discussion focused on the problem of incest, and representatives of the Central Organization for Victims of Sexual Crimes came armed with figures showing that 93 percent of incest victims are female; 94% of those seeking help after an incestuous attack are under 18; 85% of them under 16; and 57% of them under 12.

The vast majority of the girls sought help because of attack or rape, not fondling or indecency. Some 50% of the victims wait at

least five years before seeking help. Women's groups note this is because of their youth and because the attacker usually lives in the same household and can threaten the victim.

Only 10.7% of the incest victims who sought help from women's groups filed a police complaint, but many more would be willing and able to file a complaint if not prevented by the current statute of limitations.

Committee chairman Dedi Zucker (Meretz) raised a number of questions, but supported the bill, as did representatives of the police and Justice Ministry. But Zucker said the decision to change the statute of limitations is too significant to be taken lightly. He also sought protection for suspects and raised the question of what would be accepted as evidence.

Door-to-door Cancer Association fund-raiser to be held today

SOME 40,000 schoolchildren will today visit 1.5 million homes around the country to raise NIS 10 million for the Israel Cancer Association's "Knock on the Door" campaign.

As part of the Knock on the Door Campaign, 100 bank branches will remain open until midnight tonight to accept donations.

One of ICA's projects is a campaign to get middle-aged women to undergo mammograms that has resulted in 100,000 undergoing scans this year, thereby in-

creasing early detection of breast cancer and raising the survival rate.

The "Knock on the Door" campaign has distributed reduced-price bus tickets among thousands of volunteers collecting door to door. Saporsol has produced a magnetic calendar that will be on sale for NIS 10 in the country's largest chain stores with proceeds going to the ICA campaign.

Close to 13,000 new cancer cases are discovered each year,

joining the 100,000 who have been treated in previous years. Immigrant women from the former Soviet Union, where the breast cancer rate is considerably higher than that in Israel, have contributed to the growing number of cases; until recently, Israeli-born Ashkenazi women have had the highest cancer rate.

The rate is lower among Jewish women of Asian and African origin, and lowest in Arab women, but even among these groups the numbers of cases are on the rise, according to the ICA.

Study: Flu shots for elderly cost effective

VACCINATING 25,000 elderly people against influenza is highly cost effective, according to a new US study. It can reduce hospitalization resulting from flu and pneumonia, by nearly half, cut hospitalization due to cardiac insufficiency by 37 percent, and that caused by chronic respiratory disease by up to 39%.

Mortality from all causes among elderly people who are vaccinated drops by as much as 54% over a period of three years.

These statistics were quoted from the latest issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine* by Dr. Michael Weiner, head of the medical branch of Kupat Holim Clalit.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Soldiers may serve in police

The government yesterday approved a request by the police to bring 400 soldiers into its force this year, and 700 in 1996.

After the signing of the Oslo Accords, Police Minister Moshe Shahal asked for the police force to be beefed up in order to deal with the new security tasks it will have to carry out along the Green Line.

Tourist victims identified

The names of the tourists who were killed in Saturday night's bus crash on the Dead Sea road were released by police yesterday. They are Mirak Lohar, 23, and Marina Eliola, 27, of Germany; and Monica Banesdon and Sabrina Zucker-Koren, both 23, from Brazil. Five other tourists were injured in the accident, two from Denmark, and one from Germany, England, and Argentina.

Portuguese president arrives today

Portuguese President Mario Soares arrives today for a four-day official visit, the first by a Portuguese head of state.

He will meet with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, President Ezer Weizman, Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, and Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu. He will also address the Knesset, visit Yad Vashem and the Israel Museum, and tour Christian sites around Lake Kinneret. After his visit, he will stop in Gaza.

Shopping channel expands

Rami Gam, Enei Brak, Savyon, Petah Tikva, Rosh Ha'ayin and their respective area cable TV providers joined the Shopping Channel (21) yesterday.

Tel Aviv and Givatayim will link up on November 6. Channel 21 now covers much of the country from Nazareth to Beer Sheva and reaches some 400,000 cable subscribers or 47 percent. Countrywide coverage is expected by February.

Roup starts Channel 2 weather show

Danny Roup, who used to do the weather on Channel 1, is the new TV weatherman on Channel 2's *The Forecast*. It will run on the nightly news at 8:30 and also be part of Rafi Reshef's 5 p.m. news broadcast.

(Continued from Page 1)

the resources for social services would have increased by 42% in real terms compared with 1992, when the government came to power. Nearly 300 hospital beds would be added to public hospitals and more hostels would be added for psychiatric care. The private sector would be encouraged to establish additional nursing care beds, he said.

In the faction meeting, the subject of hospital beds for the elderly was raised by Labor MK Yoram Lass who asked Shohat: "What would you say if it was your father being turned out of his bed?" The prime minister interrupted: "Like you're the only person who cares."

Shohat said the education budget will grow by 73% as compared with 1992: the increase will go to more hours, classrooms and increased wages.

(Continued from Page 1)

"This ruling just proves that you shouldn't give up, no matter what it takes to fight," he said. "These past two-and-a-half years have probably been the most difficult of my life."

Regarding Shohat, he said that "it would be best if he doesn't come near me and I won't go near him."

Zvili said he would not reject Terner outright if he is still interested in joining the Labor Party. "There's room in the party for all good people, and it doesn't matter if two party members don't get on with each other."

Ben-Porat did not seem upset by the court's ruling. "There is no stain on my character," Ben-Porat said, after the ruling was announced. "I did what I did with a clean conscience."

BUDGET

The 1996 budget investment in the infrastructure will be approximately NIS 3.6 billion. He said more than 50,000 housing units will have been started by the end of 1995.

To achieve the aim of an inflation rate of 8%-10%, housing construction must continue and the price of fruits and vegetables must be closely monitored, he said.

The focus of the faction debate was the need for a national pension law, raised by Labor and Social Affairs Minister Ora Namir. MKs Emanuel Zissman and Ya'acov Sheffi, and others. Faction chairman Ra'anan Cohen said a special committee would be established to draw up a bill that will be acceptable to Shohat and be ready before November 15.

He also said the Labor faction

TERNER

acted," Ben-Porat said, after the ruling was announced. "I did what I did with a clean conscience."

She said she "accepts the court's decision as law," but repeatedly noted it had not disputed her findings, only saying she acted wrongly by not giving Terner a chance to defend himself.

"Call it a mistake, a tragedy of errors," she said. "I haven't received a slap in the face. The ruling even complimented me at times."

She did not use an impromptu press conference to clear Terner's

executive would meet with all those Labor MKs who have extra budgetary demands, including Rafi Eini, Shmuel Avital, Yossi Vamuni, Zissman, Shlomo Bahut, Eli Ben-Menahem and Lass.

The opposition criticized the budget. Likud MK Dan Tichon, the first to respond to the plan, called it "the ultimate election budget. It promises some of us a high standard of living but it is unsustainable and temporary. It is at the expense of public savings."

Nine MKs from the coalition sent a letter to Rabin warning they would not vote for the budget unless the property tax is canceled and solutions are found to the tax problems of Arab citizens. Meretz said it would not support the budget unless the government immediately acted to pass the bill on road safety and accident prevention.

name and said she would not reopen the case.

"I acted as I saw fit and as I had to. I didn't favor either one or the other and I haven't come here to justify my actions," she told the Knesset State Control Committee and scores of journalists.

The committee chaired by Likud MK David Magen unanimously announced its support of Ben-Porat, saying "her hard work and morals had taken the State Comptroller's Office to new heights."

MK Dan Tichon (Likud), however, said he feared the case could bring down the office of the comptroller, "whose main problem has always been lack of enforcement ability."

Rabin warns of drop in foreign aid

LIAT COLLINS

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin warned yesterday that changes in the US budget and cutbacks in the Jewish Agency could cause problems for the local economy in the future.

"We could be in for unpleasant surprises. I have to say we have a problem and we have to see how to cope with it," he told the Labor faction at its budget meeting.

According to Rabin, the Jewish Agency is cutting back \$60 million. He also noted the lack of a US budget for October has meant Israel has yet to receive \$1.2 billion in civilian aid, while

\$1.8b. in defense aid is being held in a bank.

The Republicans are going "all out" with their plans for budget cuts, Rabin said. He predicted this will have a negative effect on financial aid, with US citizens growing increasingly unwilling to subsidize foreign defense and welfare programs.

He said it would probably also affect Jewish fund-raising groups in the US. "As it is, the US Jewish groups currently allocate two-thirds of their funds to local Jewish community projects and barely one-third ... to Israel," he said.

LEVY

(Continued from Page 1)

prisoners, especially in arrest forms. Police do not check thoroughly to see if a suspect is wanted by another unit in a different part of the country, the report said. According to regulations, an officer is supposed to sign arrest forms, but 25% of the forms in the sample were signed by policemen.

Bail forms were found lacking in necessary details, such as names and addresses of guarantors and investigation file numbers. In some cases, officers set illegal conditions for suspects released on bail, such as forbidding them to leave their homes.

Police officers releasing suspects after questioning often failed to record the time of release, making it impossible to determine if the suspect was detained for a "reasonable period of time." In 15% of the sample, it was not noted if a suspect was merely questioned and released, or was arrested.

The Public Complaints Division recorded 2,427 complaints this year, 81% of which had been dealt with. Of these, 32% were found to be justified, compared to 25% in 1994.

Some 50% of the complaints of police violence, representing 3% of overall complaints, were found justified. Most complaints, 28%, related to police investigations.

Defects were also revealed in the registration of suspects and

serious problems were found regarding some 40% of arrests: Twenty percent of a sample of 240 arrests made in 1994 were found faulty; 4% were found "nonessential," meaning police could have continued their investigation while the suspect was on bail; in 6.2% of cases, the police did not use the time provided by a remand to further their investigation, and in 10% the arrests were not justified.

Defects were also revealed in the registration of suspects and

Buy Blue & White and keep Israel in the Pink

UN failed dismally at Srebrenica—report

THE HAGUE (Reuters) — The alleged slaughter of Muslims by Bosnian Serbs at Srebrenica in July marked a dismal failure for the United Nations, the Netherlands said yesterday.

But Dutch UN peacekeepers were powerless to prevent the Serbs seizing the "safe area" and should not be blamed for the subsequent carnage, Defense Minister Joris Voorhoeve said.

Media reports have suggested thousands of men were killed though the exact number has not been established.

"The number of men killed cannot yet be established, but may be several thousand," Voorhoeve told a news conference on the role of the Dutch peacekeepers during the fall of Srebrenica.

"The fall of Srebrenica was caused by Bosnian Serb aggression," he said. "I refuse to apportion blame to any particular person or institution, except the Bosnian Serbs."

Voorhoeve said the Serb offensive had been an "appalling tragedy." Serious war crimes were committed by the Serbs, mostly beyond the view of the Dutch.

"There is strong evidence to suggest mass execution and the existence of mass graves outside the enclave," he added.

Some 40,000 Muslims had been packed into the UN protected enclave in eastern Bosnia which was guarded by some 350 lightly-armed Dutch peacekeepers.

Voorhoeve said most of the killings took place among the 10,000 to 15,000 Muslim men who fled for Bosnian government territory on the eve of the Serb offensive on July 11.

He said the Dutch battalion, armed only with machine guns and a few armored vehicles, was powerless against the estimated 1,000 Bosnian Serbs equipped with heavy guns and tanks.

"Had attempts been made to repel the Bosnian Serbs by force, this would have resulted...in a bloodbath among the tens of thousands of refugees and among the Dutch blue helmets."

Voorhoeve said repeated requests to UN commanders for air strikes were turned down until it was too late.

The air strikes then had to be abandoned quickly when the Serbs threatened to kill 55 Dutch peacekeepers they had taken hostage.

In Zagreb, Croatia's ruling party looked poised yesterday to win elections that could influence crucial talks this week in the United States intended to hammer out an overall peace settlement.

The vote for the lower house of parliament was seen as a referendum on Croatian President Franjo Tudjman's strong nationalist line, highlighted by his avowed determination to regain the Eastern Slavonia region from rebel Serbs.

The return of Eastern Slavonia is one of the two main problems to be tackled at the peace talks opening tomorrow in an air base near Dayton, Ohio, the other being a package to end 3½ years of war in Bosnia.

Tudjman's HDZ, buoyed by nationalist euphoria after military victories over rebel Serbs, had 44.2 percent of the vote — well ahead of the combined opposition — with two-thirds of polling stations accounted for.

Tudjman has pledged to recapture Eastern Slavonia by force, as he did two other Serb-held regions this year, if there is no agreement at the talks involving the presidents of Serbia, Bosnia and Croatia, due in Dayton today.

All three sides appear to have hardened their positions in the run-up to the talks, but European Union negotiator Carl Bildt said this was tactical maneuvering.

"It's what you would expect before parties go into a negotiation that they themselves ought to see as probably the final one," he said.

Mediators had hoped that Croatia and its rebel Serbs would reach agreement before the peace talks opened, but both sides raised last-minute objections for the return of Eastern Slavonia after a transition period.

Diplomats said the Serbs accepted reintegration but wanted a three-year transition. Zagreb demands one year.

Tudjman, a former communist general, called the elections nine months early to capitalize on his status as a national hero after he masterminded two blitzkrieg offensives against Serbs that reunified most of the country.

His HDZ party, which had 78 seats in the outgoing 138-seat assembly, steered Croatia to independence in 1991 but had lost popularity because of its spotty economic record.

"As far as we could judge, the 1995 elections in Croatia followed democratic rules and, with some reservations, the voting can be considered to have been free and fair," Lord Finsberg, who headed a delegation of observers from the Council of Europe, said yesterday.

Fawning coverage of the HDZ's campaign by state media and the speed with which the election was scheduled were both matters of concern, Finsberg said.

Observers were also worried about the government's move to let 365,000 expatriate Croats vote in the election, some 300,000 of them in neighboring Bosnia.

The new assembly will have 127 seats after a cut in those reserved for minority Serbs following the exodus of 200,000 Serbs as the Croatian army moved in.



Azeri women wait in a Baku hospital yesterday for the bodies of loved ones who died in Saturday's subway fire, which killed 289. (Reuters)

Baku mourns subway disaster victims

BAKU (AP) — Mullahs blessed the dead and funeral music played on radios in Azerbaijan's capital yesterday as residents mourned the victims of a weekend subway fire that killed some 300 people.

Survivors of the deadly fire said yesterday no firemen or medical teams came for over two hours after the accident.

"There were screams and everyone was trying to jump out of the train," said Khirami Khankishiyeva, a 33-year-old English teacher whose legs were lacerated after stumbling nearly two km to the next subway station.

Ishan Gamidov, 26, said people massed at the windows trying to escape. He said he helped a mother and one of her two children out of the subway car. The woman's legs were badly burned after her stockings caught fire,

and she was forced to leave one of her children behind, Gamidov said.

At least 200 other passengers were injured in the world's worst-ever subway disaster.

Rescue workers recovered about 300 bodies from the wreckage of a subway train that caught fire in a tunnel, trapping hundreds of terrified passengers in flames and noxious gas.

Yesterday, the subway was filled with commuters, although policemen patrolled the stations and guarded the main Taza Pir mosque in central Baku.

Train drivers flashed their lights between the stations where the accident took place in memory of the victims, the independent Turan news agency reported. Red carnations tied by black ribbons were placed at the en-

trance of subway stations.

Chanting midday prayers, mullahs blessed the bodies of the dead who were being brought wrapped in clothing and blankets for ritual cleansing to the mosque before being buried. Some of the bodies had not yet been identified.

Radio stations were playing classical and funeral music over and over again.

Unable to escape from the packed train, most of the dead were killed by carbon monoxide poisoning from burning toxic materials in the carriages.

The former Soviet republic declared two days of mourning for the dead. Officials blamed the tragedy on the metro's "outdated Soviet" equipment, which needed repair.

After 3 days in limelight, 'talk shop' gets back to work

OUTSIDE the UN back door, a "protest paddles" bobbled in the river. Out front, six Tibetans weakened hour by hour in a sidewalk hunger strike. Inside, diplomats debated yet another international crisis, before breaking for lunch.

The UN's 7-battle world was returning to "normal" after three heady days last week as the meeting ground of global leaders.

That special session, marking the UN 50th anniversary, produced a string of stirring, if brief, speeches from presidents and other leaders of more than 180 nations. It also produced a declaration promising a UN that "will work with renewed vigor."

But a look at a routine UN day after the heads-of-state meeting

showed how its vigor is being sapped by financial problems, and its renewal could bog down in debate and documents. It showed, too, how the UN system still can get things done to help people.

By 10 a.m., youth delegates from a dozen nations were converging on the General Assembly hall, as two days of discussions opened on a "program of action for youth."

In a basement conference room, Kofi Annan, undersecretary-general for peacekeeping, had gathered 120 of his officers for a weekly closed-door session reviewing UN peace operations.

Back upstairs, diplomats from the 15 Security Council nations assembled for private talks about another African crisis, in Liberia,

CHARLES J. HANLEY
UNITED NATIONS

where peace finally may be taking hold after six years of civil war.

"Acute financial crisis" touches everything at the United Nations these days, including prospects for expanded peacekeeping missions. Governments are \$3 billion in arrears on their UN assessments, led by Washington, which owes \$1.3b.

Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the money crisis in mind, traveled to Washington to meet members of the House International Relations Committee, key players in US-UN affairs.

But at other meetings at headquarters, the debates illustrated

why the world body has an undying reputation as a "talk shop" and swollen bureaucracy.

In Conference Room 4, the Latvian delegate seized on an arms control discussion to criticize Russian military policies.

In Room 2, a Chinese diplomat reprised a ritual complaint — that the Western powers are keeping the UN Economic and Social Council powerless.

But, somewhere in between, delegates heard something positive: a report from a World Health Organization representative on progress the UN health arm is making against malaria.

A tide of fresh white documents swept over each room — resolutions, reports, agendas, more than 2 million document

pages per day produced in the vast underground printing plant.

While China complained inside about UN organization, protesters outside complained about China.

On a First Avenue sidewalk, six Tibetans were on a hunger strike, seeking UN help in gaining independence from China.

On the East River, meanwhile, an excursion "paddles" had been converted into a floating protest. A broad sign on its port side demanded that Taiwan, expelled in favor of China 24 years ago, be readmitted to the United Nations.

Protests, blizzards of paper, little-noted debates — a typical UN day after three days in the limelight. (Reuters)

Tanzania nullifies chaotic poll in capital

DAR ES SALAAM (Reuters) — Tanzania's electoral commission (NEC) yesterday declared null and void chaotic multi-party polls held in the capital on Sunday.

Opposition parties called for an interim government to be set up as the scale of the chaos in Tanzania's first polls emerged.

Election officials and materials failed to arrive at an unknown number of the country's 40,000 polling stations.

NEC chairman Lewis Makame told a news conference that fresh voting in Dar es Salaam's seven constituencies would be held next week on a date to be announced.

Sunday's vote for Tanzania's presidency and parliament was disrupted at least eight provincial constituencies where more voting would be held yesterday or today, he said.

A statement by six opposition parties, including Augustine Mrema's powerful NCCR-Mageuzi, said polling was rigged and they had lost confidence in NEC and the one-party government.

"An interim government of all parties should be formed at once under the chief justice. This should be given the task of organizing fresh elections," the statement in Swahili said.

ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION

To receive recorded information by phone or fax:

1) Telex, 03-6388863 (information on building tenders)
2) Telex, 03-6389363 (information on results of tenders)

ISRAEL LANDS AUTHORITY, HAIFA REGION
Build Your Own House — Givat Olga, Hodera (total of 42 residential units)
The Israel Lands Authority, in cooperation with the Industrial Buildings Co. Ltd. and the Hadera Municipality, hereby offers lots for Build Your Own House in Givat Olga, for the construction of 42 housing units within two-family buildings with a shared wall.
5 lots are set aside for the disabled who do not own a lot and for whom there has not been designated any lot anywhere in the country, according to the following criteria: IDF disabled with more than 50% permanent disability, according to a certificate of disability from the Rehabilitation Branch of the Ministry of Defense, valid for one year; non-IDF disabled with 75% permanent, physical disability, according to a valid certificate from the National Insurance Institute or the Ministry of Health. Among the lots set aside for the disabled, preference will be given to IDF disabled who have 100% permanent disability. Likewise, preference in the choice of lots will be given to the disabled.
Registration will take place at the Hadera Municipality Building in the Meeting Room, Rehov Ahad Ha'am, corner of Rehov Hilel Yachin, Hadera, Sundays-Thursday, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. (Tel. 06-303308, 06-303309). Registration will open on Sunday, November 5, 1995, at 9 a.m., and will close on Tuesday, November 7, at 12 noon. To register, a bank check for the sum of NIS 5,000, payable to the Israel Lands Authority, must be deposited; this will also serve as down payment for the land. Registration forms and a detailed leaflet may be obtained free-of-charge from November 5, 1995, from the above-mentioned address.

ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION
Central Region
Invitation to submit bids for the lease of plots no. 2, 3, 4, 5, according to building plan Lamed Dalet 385 for the construction of 170 housing units and for demolition work at the Segal site in Lod
Tender 166/95/Mem Fresh

The Israel Lands Administration invites bids from those interested in signing a capitalized development agreement for 5 years, including permission to carry out demolition, following which a 49 year leasing agreement will be signed, with the option of renewing for a further 49 years, in respect of the plots as stated below:

Lot	Plot	Housing Units on Lot	Area sq.m.	Max. Area for Registration sq.m.	No. of Units	Deposit NIS
3560	9,12,13,15,17, 18,21,27	2,34,35, 30,32,4	11,358	18,700	170	1,500,000
4024	40,61,62,18,19	5				

Building Rights
According to Building Plan Lamed Dalet/385 (henceforth "the Plan"), plots 2, 4, and 5 are defined as a special residential area, and plots 3a, 3b, 3c are defined as a residential area Gimmel. Apartments of an average size of 110 sq.m. may be built plus 5 sq.m. of service area. Rooms leading out onto the roof of up to 23 sq.m. per apartment may be built for top floor apartments, all according to the regulations of the Building Plan.
Obligations of the successful bidder:
1. To pay the price offered for the land.
2. To carry out the demolition work and to remove any obstacles, including engineering obstacles, at his own expense, in every one of the sites as detailed in the tender.
3. To pay all the levies and taxes and obligatory payments according to the by-laws to the Yehud Local Council when submitting requests for building permits on the plots, including building levies, surcharges and development charges.
4. The entrepreneur will carry out at his own expense whatever is required to have the buildings registered at the Land Registry.
The Administration reserves the right to accept any bid, or to reject all bids, including the highest.
The tender booklet will be available from November 15, 1995, on submission of a Postal Bank receipt, showing that NIS 250 for each booklet (including VAT - cash only) has been paid into the Administration's account no. 0-24180-0. The booklet will be available at the Administration's offices, 88 Derech Petach Tikvah, Tel Aviv, (Tel. 03-5633383), during regular working hours.
A bank check or bank guarantee for the amount shown in the table must be attached to the bid.
Last date for submitting bids: January 10, 1996 (12 noon). A bid not found in the tenders box when it is opened, whatever the reason, cannot be considered.
This notice is for information only, and does not obligate the Administration in any way - either in regard to its contents, nor in regard to the dates stated. The binding terms are those given in the tender booklet.

ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION
Central Region
Invitation to submit bids for the lease of plots 86-111 for the construction of 26 housing units in two-family buildings and for demolition work in Neve Ziona
Tender 167/95/Mem Fresh

The Israel Lands Administration invites bids from those interested in signing a capitalized development agreement for 3 years, including permission to carry out demolition, following which a 49 year leasing agreement will be signed, with the option of renewing for a further 49 years, in respect of the plots as stated below:

Lot	Plot	Housing Units on Lot	Area sq.m.	Max. Area for Registration sq.m.	No. of Units	Deposit NIS
3841	163,321,327	111-86	9,324	3,900	26	500,000

**According to Building Plan Nun Tet/86/1107 (henceforth "the Plan"), the area is defined as a Build Your Own House area for two-room houses. On each plot a 2 story housing unit of up to 150 sq.m. may be built plus auxiliary buildings including covered parking of up to 18 sq.m. plus a basement of up to 50 sq.m. for each apartment. Buildings will be constructed with a shared wall between two apartments, all according to the regulations of the Building Plan.
Obligations of the successful bidder:
1. To pay the price offered for the land.
2. To carry out the demolition work and to remove any obstacles, including engineering obstacles, at his own expense, in every one of the sites as detailed in the tender.
3. To pay all the levies and taxes and obligatory payments according to the by-laws to the Yehud Local Council when submitting requests for building permits on the plots, including building levies, surcharges and development charges.
4. The entrepreneur will carry out at his own expense whatever is required to have the buildings registered at the Land Registry.
The Administration reserves the right to accept any bid, or to reject all bids, including the highest.
The tender booklet will be available from November 15, 1995, on submission of a Postal Bank receipt, showing that NIS 250 for each booklet (including VAT - cash only) has been paid into the Administration's account no. 0-24180-0. The booklet will be available at the Administration's offices, 88 Derech Petach Tikvah, Tel Aviv, (Tel. 03-5633383), during regular working hours.**

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This notice is for information only, and does not obligate the Administration in any way - either in regard to its contents, nor in regard to the dates stated. The binding terms are those given in the tender booklet.

ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION
Central Region
Invitation to submit bids by contract for permission to plan and the option to receive the rights to the land in Netzer Sarcel, Rehovot
Tender No. 100/95/Mem Fresh

POSTPONEMENT
The Israel Lands Administration hereby announces that the final date for purchasing the tender booklet containing a set of photographs of the plots has been postponed to Wednesday, November 15, 1995 at 11 a.m. on submission of a receipt from the Postal Bank for the payment of 1,000 in cash (inc. VAT) into the Administration's account no. 0-24180-0. The booklet may be obtained from the Administration's Central Region offices, 88 Derech Petach Tikvah, Tel Aviv, (Tel. 03-5633383), during regular office hours.
Similarly, the final date for submitting bids has been postponed to January 9, 1996 at 12 noon. Any bid which for whatever reason is not in the tenders box at the above address on the date and time mentioned above will not be considered.

ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION
Jerusalem Region
Invitation to submit bids for the lease of a plot for the construction of a residential building (private building), totalling 22 housing units in Shikun Hamizrach in Rishon LeZion
Tender 168/95/Mem Fresh

The Israel Lands Administration invites bids for the lease of a building plot to be used for private building in Shikun Hamizrach in Rishon LeZion.
The tender is offering a total of 32 plots for private building.
Bidders are entitled to bid for up to four plots, but will not be granted the right for more than one plot, as the Administration's discretion.
The Administration reserves the right to accept any bid, or to reject all bids, including the highest.
The tender booklet will be available from November 20, 1995, on submission of a Postal Bank receipt, showing that NIS 100 (including VAT - cash only) for each booklet has been paid into the Administration's account no. 0-24180-0. The booklet will be available at the Administration's offices, Central Region, 88 Derech Petach Tikvah, Tel Aviv, (Tel. 03-5633383), during regular working hours.
A bank check or bank guarantee for the sum of NIS 15,000 must be attached to the bid.
Last date for submitting bids: January 10, 1996 (12 noon). A bid not found in the tenders box when it is opened, whatever the reason, cannot be considered.
This notice is for information only, and does not obligate the Administration in any way - either in regard to its contents, nor in regard to the dates stated. The binding terms are those given in the tender booklet.

ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION
Central Region
Invitation to submit bids for the lease of 2 plots for residential building in Yehud (83 housing units in total)
The Israel Lands Administration invites bids from those interested in signing a capitalized development agreement for 3 years, including permission to carry out demolition, following which a 49 year leasing agreement will be signed, with the option of renewing for a further 49 years, in respect of the plots as stated below:
Plot nos. 120-127 according to Building Plan 2001/Yud Dalet/86/107, lot 1 in Yehud for the construction of 46 housing units and for carrying out demolition work.

Lot	Plot	Housing Units on Lot	Area sq.m.	Max. Area for Registration sq.m.	No. of Units	Deposit NIS
6728	26,29, 76	130-127	8,964	6,000	46	600,000
6893	14,15, 48, 53, 59					

Building Rights
According to Building Plan Yud Dalet/2001, the plots are defined as a residential area Gimmel, 46 housing units may be built in 2 story buildings. Apartments will be an average size of 150 sq.m. in cottages which have slanting roofs, the area beneath the roof may be utilized, according to the regulations of the Building Plan.
Obligations of the successful bidder:
1. To pay the price offered for the land.
2. To carry out the demolition work and to remove any obstacles, including engineering obstacles, at his own expense, in every one of the sites as detailed in the tender, including building levies, surcharges and development charges.
4. The entrepreneur will carry out at his own expense whatever is required to have the buildings registered at the Land Registry.
The Administration reserves the right to accept any bid, or to reject all bids, including the highest.
The tender booklets (2 booklets) will be available from November 15, 1995, on submission of a Postal Bank receipt, showing that NIS 250 for each booklet (including VAT - cash only) has been paid into the Administration's account no. 0-24180-0. The booklet will be available at the Administration's offices, 88 Derech Petach Tikvah, Tel Aviv, (Tel. 03-5633383), during regular working hours.
A bank check or bank guarantee for the amount shown in the table must be attached to the bid.
Last date for submitting bids: January 10, 1996 (12 noon). A bid not found in the tenders box when it is opened, whatever the reason, cannot be considered.
This notice is for information only, and does not obligate the Administration in any way - either in regard to its contents, nor in regard to the dates stated. The binding terms are those given in the tender booklet.

ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION
Central Region
Invitation to submit bids for the lease of plots 86-111 for the construction of 26 housing units in two-family buildings and for demolition work in Neve Ziona
Tender 167/95/Mem Fresh

The Israel Lands Administration invites bids from those interested in signing a capitalized development agreement for 3 years, including permission to carry out demolition, following which a 49 year leasing agreement will be signed, with the option of renewing for a further 49 years, in respect of the plots as stated below:

Lot	Plot	Housing Units on Lot	Area sq.m.	Max. Area for Registration sq.m.	No. of Units	Deposit NIS
6728	38,40, 38,47	118-112	6,583	4,650	37	500,000
6893	61					

Building Rights
According to Building Plan Yud Dalet/2001, the plots are defined as a residential area Gimmel, 37 housing units may be built in 2 story buildings. Apartments will be an average size of 150 sq.m. in cottages which have slanting roofs, the area beneath the roof may be utilized, according to the regulations of the Building Plan.
Obligations of the successful bidder:
1. To pay the price offered for the land.
2. To carry out the demolition work and to remove any obstacles, including engineering obstacles, at his own expense, in every one of the sites as detailed in the tender, including building levies, surcharges and development charges.
4. The entrepreneur will carry out at his own expense whatever is required to have the buildings registered at the Land Registry.
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ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION
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Tender 167/95/Mem Fresh

The Israel Lands Administration invites bids from those interested in signing a capitalized development agreement for 3 years, including permission to carry out demolition, following which a 49 year leasing agreement will be signed, with the option of renewing for a further 49 years, in respect of the plots as stated below:

Lot	Plot	Housing Units on Lot	Area sq.m.	Max. Area for Registration sq.m.	No. of Units	Deposit NIS
3841	163,321,327	111-86	9,324	3,900	26	500,000

**According to Building Plan Nun Tet/86/1107 (henceforth "the Plan"), the area is defined as a Build Your Own House area for two-room houses. On each plot a 2 story housing unit of up to 150 sq.m. may be built plus auxiliary buildings including covered parking of up to 18 sq.m. plus a basement of up to 50 sq.m. for each apartment. Buildings will be constructed with a shared wall between two apartments, all according to the regulations of the Building Plan.
Obligations of the successful bidder:
1. To pay the price offered for the land.
2. To carry out the demolition work and to remove any obstacles, including engineering obstacles, at his own expense, in every one of the sites as detailed in the tender.
3. To pay all the levies and taxes and obligatory payments according to the by-laws to the Yehud Local Council when submitting requests for building permits on the plots, including building levies, surcharges and development charges.
4. The entrepreneur will carry out at his own expense whatever is required to have the buildings registered at the Land Registry.
The Administration reserves the right to accept any bid, or to reject all bids, including the highest.
The tender booklet will be available from November 15, 1995, on submission of a Postal Bank receipt, showing that NIS 250 for each booklet (including VAT - cash only) has been paid into the Administration's account no. 0-24180-0. The booklet will be available at the Administration's offices, 88 Derech Petach Tikvah, Tel Aviv, (Tel. 03-5633383), during regular working hours.**

הכרזה האחרונה

Polls: Quebec vote too close to call

MONTREAL (AP) — Canada's destiny was at stake yesterday as 5 million Quebec voters decided whether their province — with one-fourth of the country's people and one-sixth of its land — should break away to independence.

Final polls indicated the outcome was too close to call. A separatist victory would thrust Canada into the greatest crisis of its history, while a narrow federalist victory would leave the French-speaking province bitterly divided.

Polling stations opened at 10 a.m. with crisp, clear weather prevailing across most of the province. Voting ended at 8 p.m. and the outcome was likely to be known within an hour or two unless there was a virtual tie. Exit polls are not allowed in Canada.

Long lines formed at many polling stations before they opened. Widespread predictions said the turnout could exceed 90 percent.

Jacques Parizeau, premier of the separatist Quebec government, was the first campaign leader to vote.

"Quebec will win," he said at the polling station in the posh Montreal neighborhood of Outremont.

Earlier in the campaign, the debate focused largely on whether Quebec would suffer economic calamity if it separated. But at their closing rallies, rival leaders played to emotions, not to pragmatism.

"Say Yes to Quebec," pleaded separatist leader Lucien Bouchard to 2,000 supporters in Beauport, near Quebec City. "We don't have the right to let this chance pass by. God knows when there will



Quebec Premier Jacques Parizeau and his wife meet reporters outside Outremont's polling station yesterday. (Reuters)

be another chance."

Prime Minister Jean Chretien, a Quebecer committed to keeping Canada intact, was equally passionate at a rally in Hull, a city in western Quebec across the Ottawa River from Canada's capital.

"Tomorrow night, we Quebecers, our home will still be Quebec, our country will still be Canada," he said. "We have learned

that never, never should we take our country Canada for granted."

The flag-waving crowd, before dispersing, sang the national anthem, "O Canada" — the French and English versions resounding simultaneously through a packed museum auditorium. Thousands of Ottawa residents came over bridges from Ontario to join

Quebecers at the rally.

The last polls gave a slight edge to the separatists among decided voters. But pollsters considered the race a dead heat because most of the 10 percent undecided were expected to back the federalists.

Chretien and his allies sounded more confident than they had in recent days, apparently convinced

that a wave of unity rallies nationwide had convinced wavering Quebecers their compatriots cared about them.

Still, police mobilized as a precautionary measure, particularly in bilingual Montreal and in Hull.

About 82 percent of Quebecers are French-speaking, and a majority were likely to support independence, according to polls.

De Klerk: Give temporary indemnity to accused ex-generals

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) — South Africa's last white rulers said yesterday that former generals accused of the murders of 13 blacks should be given temporary exemption from prosecution like many ministers in the present government.

The National Party of South African Deputy President F.W. de Klerk said the generals played a crucial role in the peaceful transition to black majority rule. They were entitled to the same exemption under the constitution as everyone else.

"Many African National Congress (ANC) cabinet ministers would not have been ministers had they not received temporary indemnity... They were among 77 leading ANC figures who received temporary indemnity for similar acts," National Party justice spokesman Danie Schutte said.

White conservatives earlier accused President Nelson Mandela's ANC-led government of a witchhunt in the planned arrests of a former defense minister and 10 senior officers over hit-squad killings in 1987.

"This could lead to a national crisis, we are worried at the timing. We believe there is a political motive behind the action," said Flip Buys, chief secretary of the rightist Freedom Front.

Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi said former defense minister General Magnus Malan and 10 senior officers would be arrested when they appear at Durban court on Thursday.

Those named included former defense force chief General Janrie Geldenhuys, former army chief Kat Liebenberg, and former military intelligence director Tienie Groenewald.

Mufamadi said they would be charged with the killings of 13 blacks in the Zulu heartland of KwaZulu-Natal.

He said their indictments also related to their alleged roles in establishing a paramilitary force for the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party — allegedly responsible for the massacre.

Malan was defense minister from 1980 until demoted in 1991 to the water and forestry portfolio after anti-apartheid groups demanded his resignation over his hawkish stance in dealing with black township unrest.

Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Home Affairs Minister in Mandela's unity government, said yesterday the arrests would affect reconciliation and appeared to be politically contrived.

"I don't think one needs the wisdom of the world to see that it is a politically-contrived thing. It was done deliberately in view of the local government elections on Wednesday," Buthelezi said, referring to the November 1 local government elections.

Asked about views that the arrests were ordered to show that senior military officers were not above the law, Buthelezi, appearing at a small pre-election rally in Johannesburg, said:

"What about cabinet ministers in President Mandela's cabinet... who are alleged to have killed people, some of them buried... in shallow graves all over Africa?"

Malan told Johannesburg's *Citizen* newspaper in an interview published yesterday that the action against him and the other officers demonstrated a "political motive and expediency."

"South Africans will have to judge now to what extent this action will turn out to be a blow to national reconciliation," Malan said.

De Klerk, South Africa's last white leader who handed power to Mandela after elections last year, said he was shocked by the impending arrests.

Accused serial killer West speaks of murdered daughters

WINCHESTER (Reuters) — Alleged serial killer Rosemary West shook with sobs yesterday as she spoke of the daughter and step-daughter she is accused of killing.

The British housewife, giving evidence for the first time, told a packed court she had been raped twice by strangers before falling under the spell at the age of 15 of husband Fred, found hanged in his cell in January as he awaited trial on serial murder charges.

Rosemary West, charged with murdering 10 young women and girls including daughter Heather and step-daughter Charmaine, entered the witness box at the start of the case in her defense.

When she met Fred, West said she had been more interested in his motherless daughters Charmaine and Anna-Marie who lived with him in a caravan than in the powerful builder himself.

"I wanted to look after them, to protect them as much as I could. I loved them," said West hesitantly in a West Country accent.

The couple have been accused of a campaign of sexual abuse and violence, leading to murder, against young women and girls in a 16-year period to 1987.

Charmaine's remains were dug up last this year during a murder hunt which uncovered the dismembered bodies of 10 young females beneath or near the homes of Fred and Rosemary West.

Rosemary, who said she had her first sexual experience at 14, met Fred when he was 27. At 16, the age of consent in Britain, she was pregnant and, defying her family, went to live with him.

She had fallen in love with Fred, she said, because she "was nursing old wounds" from when

her mother had left home.

"Because I was so young I fell for his lies, although I didn't realize they were lies at the time. He promised to love me and care for me and I fell for it," West said.

At 17, Rosemary West was caring for three young children while Fred West was in prison for theft.

Charmaine was a difficult child, who disobeyed her and refused to eat, said West, dissolving

into sobs and stammering that she had loved her step-daughters.

Fred West faced the same 10 murder charges as Rosemary West as well as charges of killing his first wife Lena and a nanny.

West also talked of her eldest daughter Heather, who disappeared at the age of 16 and whose remains were unearthed at West's former home at 25, Cromwell Street, Gloucester.

Wife says Yeltsin is improving

MOSCOW (Reuters) — President Boris Yeltsin's health has improved since suffering a mild heart attack and he is taking all major decisions in Russia, his prime minister said yesterday.

Echoing remarks by Naina Yeltsin, who said her husband was on the mend, Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin sought to end concern prompted by a lack of firm evidence of the 64-year-old president's condition since he entered the hospital on Thursday.

"The president's health is better than it was at the start, but for now doctors are recommending that he should not meet visitors," Chernomyrdin said.

"The president is deciding all the most important questions in the life of the country," he said in comments on television news.

Naina Yeltsin, one of the few people allowed to visit the president, said little to reporters as she visited a new shop in the GUM department store on Red Square. But asked how her husband was, she replied: "Thank you, he is feeling better."

Mrs. Yeltsin, who looked cheerful but tired, gave no more details and did not say when she last saw her husband.

World Court sits on legality of nukes

THE HAGUE (AP) — Already angry over French nuclear testing, Australia yesterday kicked off a high-profile World Court attempt to show the world that nuclear weapons are illegal.

Although the case at the UN court is unlikely to change any country's nuclear weapons policies, anti-nuclear nations hope to use its podium to make the world's most powerful nations look like atomic outlaws.

Only three days after France's third underground test in the South Pacific, Australia sent its foreign minister, Gareth Evans, to warn that "nuclear weapons threaten the whole of civilization."

But Australia also warned that a court opinion saying nuclear weapons are legal could hurt the cause of disarmament.

At issue is whether the nuclear powers violate the very laws they pioneered to protect civilization and humanity. The Geneva and Hague conventions governing the conduct of war state that when a weapon is not specifically forbidden, "the dictates of public conscience" apply.

France began detonating a series of nuclear tests in the south Pacific last month.

The Geneva-based World Health Organization and the UN General Assembly have requested

hearings to determine whether the use of nuclear weapons or even the threat of using them as a deterrent in war violate any international law.

Up to 25 states will address the court. Four of the five self-declared nuclear powers — France, Britain, the United States and Russia — are expected to argue that nuclear weapons are not unlawful. The fifth, China, did not submit any argument for the hearings, expected to last 13 days.

Evans argued before the 14-judge court that repeated UN resolutions condemning the use of nuclear weapons have established their illegality.

The Australian foreign minister said that while nuclear weapons may not have been illegal in previous decades, a fundamental change in world opinion since the end of the Cold War has outlawed them as instruments of war.

And he attacked the concept of nuclear deterrence.

The extension of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in May restricts nuclear weaponry to the five self-declared nuclear powers, but others, including Israel, India, and Pakistan, are believed to have nuclear weapons or technology.

Activists welcomed Evans' presentation.

1995 Census of Population and Housing

During October, November and December 1995, a census of population and housing will be held throughout Israel. A census is held every ten years. The objective of the census is to obtain statistical, demographic and socio-economic data on Israel's population, which will facilitate the drawing up of plans for the development of the country and the economy, for the period through the turn of the century.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

When will the census taker come?

The census takers will call on every household, to provide a census questionnaire. These visits will start on October 19, 1995, and the census taker will call again, in the period starting November 5, 1995, to collect the questionnaire. There is no need for you to stay at home, awaiting his call. If you are not at home, he will call again.

You complete the questionnaire

The census taker will leave a questionnaire, which you should complete. A few days later, he will call again, to collect the completed questionnaire.

How many types of questionnaire are there?

All residents will complete a short questionnaire. A 20% sample of the population will fill in an expanded questionnaire. In no questionnaire are there any questions about religion.

In what languages is the questionnaire available?

The questionnaire has been printed in Hebrew and Arabic, the official languages of the State of Israel. As an aid, translations of the questionnaire have been prepared in English, Russian, Romanian, Yiddish, Spanish, French and Amharic. These translations are purely an aid. The census taker will be glad to help anyone who has difficulty in filling in the questionnaire, when he returns to collect it.

Is it compulsory to participate in the census?

The Statistics Order (New Version) 1972 makes it obligatory for everyone to participate in the census. Participating in the census is an important right - everyone who participates influences the future of the State.

The information you provide is confidential

The law requires the information you provide to be kept strictly confidential. No body private or public - including the courts, the police, the security establishment, the broadcasting authority, and the income tax authorities - has ever received from a census any personal information that could be related to a resident, and will not receive any such information from the 1995 census.

How can you identify the census taker?

The census taker who calls on you will be wearing an identifying badge, which will include his photograph. The badge will identify the person wearing it as a census taker, participating in the 1995 Census of Population and Housing, being conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics, which is the body charged with holding the census.

From October 19, Telemesser lines will be available around the clock, for telephone inquiries regarding the filling-in of the census questionnaire, in the following languages:

HEBREW - Tel Aviv - 03-5653996, Jerusalem - 02-294499, Haifa - 04-303199
ARABIC - National Headquarters - 03-5653200
RUSSIAN - National Headquarters - 03-5653997

Thank you in anticipation of your cooperation!
Central Bureau of Statistics

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The Jerusalem battle (cont.)

THE Congressional resolution to move the American Embassy to Jerusalem by May 1999, which will automatically become law within 30 days, has caused an avalanche of anti-American statements in the Arab world. But, contrary to expectations, it has done nothing to derail the peace process.

In concrete terms nothing has happened. Yasser Arafat's call for an Arab summit meeting has been ignored - Secretary-General of the Arab League Esmat Abdel Maguid has said such a meeting is unlikely now. And the Arab Committee on Jerusalem, headed by King Hassan of Morocco, has also turned down Arafat's request to convene.

Nor has Arafat himself taken any steps to protest the move. He seems to have limited his response to quoting President Bill Clinton's assurances that the White House will use its right to postpone the move when the time comes. (What Clinton failed to specify is what would happen if Robert Dole, the bill's sponsor, becomes president next year.)

The American decision has demonstrated that fears of fierce Arab reaction against the peace process as a result of the Jerusalem resolution - fears tirelessly spread by the State Department and the Europeans and abetted by the Israeli government - are groundless. They are a reflection of an attitude, prevalent since the establishment of Israel, which perceives Arab willingness to negotiate with Israel as a favor and a concession.

The Arabs are at least as interested in an Israeli withdrawal from the territories as the government is eager to attain a signed accord. They will do nothing to upset this withdrawal. If anything, the Congress has shown that treating Israel as a normal nation whose capital is recognized by the world's superpower can only hasten the acceptance of Israel's reality and advance the cause of peace. (This is not the first time that American decisiveness has exposed European "even-handedness" for the impotence and hypocrisy it represents. American action in Bosnia is a similar example.)

Not that the Europeans can be weaned of their addiction to self-serving sanctimony. They know that the Oslo agreement specifically restricts the Palestinian Authority's governmental activities to Gaza and Jericho. But they continue, in demonstrative defiance of Israeli requests, to treat Orient House as the Palestinian foreign ministry.

On Friday, a delegation of EU ministers, led by Spanish Foreign Minister Javier Solana visited Orient House for official discussions with Faisal Hussein, the PA's minister for Jerusalem affairs and unofficial foreign minister. Their intention was obviously to reinforce the Palestinian claim to Jerusalem, and it may well be that such European visits, coupled with Israel's half-hearted, mealy-mouthed protests, encourage the PLO to believe that no matter what Congress decides, they will win the battle for Jerusalem.

Nor is Orient House the only governmental representation of the PA in Jerusalem. The Palestinians have obviously realized that the more PA agencies become entrenched in Jerusalem, the more difficult it will be to ignore Palestinian claims to the capital. There are more than 30 offices and agencies of the PA in the city. And on Sunday, Peace Watch, the non-partisan agency that monitors compliance with the Oslo agreements, revealed that the Palestinian Water Authority is also operating in Jerusalem in violation of the accords. That the agency is funded by the United Nations Development Program makes the violation particularly outrageous.

The High Court of Justice has been asked by the B'tzedek organization to demand that the government explain its failure to close the PA's offices in Jerusalem. The ruling is expected "at a later date," and the court may conclude that such political matters are not within its purview. But the blunt facts have been made clear by Justice Misha'el Cheshin's comment after reading B'tzedek's evidence: "A kind of Palestinian Authority government is functioning in eastern Jerusalem," he remarked.

Killer trucks and buses

THE statistics point to an anomalous situation: Buses and trucks are responsible for a disproportionate number of fatal traffic accidents. The public has the right to expect the precise opposite. Drivers of such vehicles are specially licensed, and they can be more easily inspected and monitored. One would expect, too, that professional drivers would be more experienced and responsible than others.

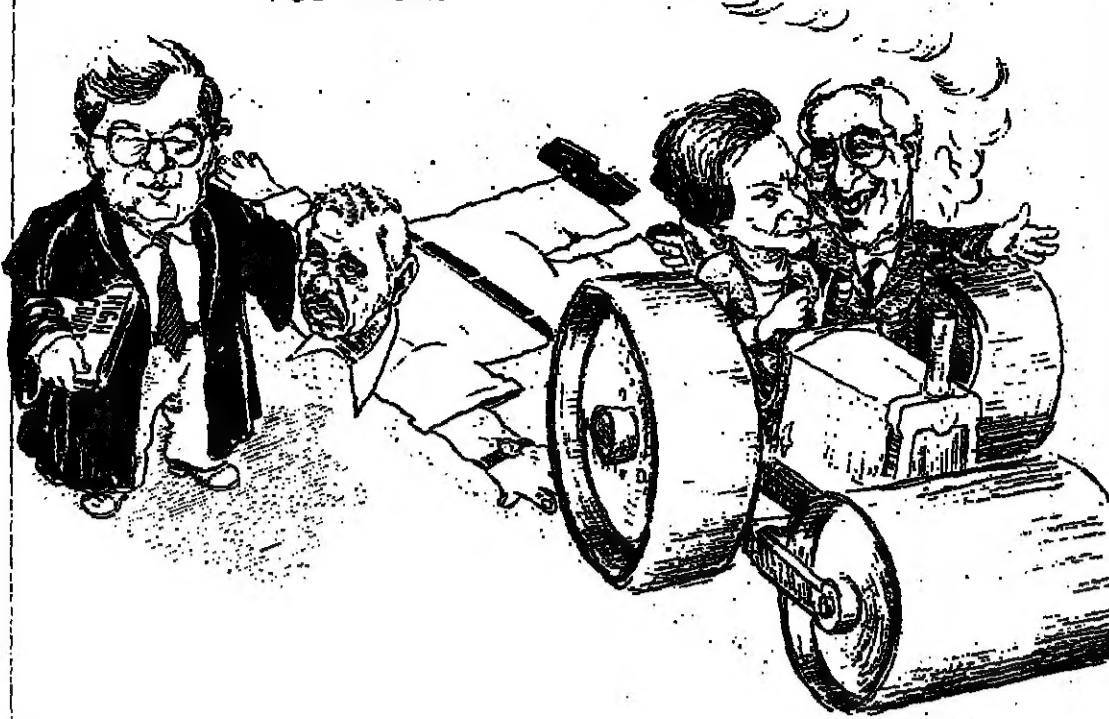
But, as former MK Uriel Lynn pointed out in an article in the Hebrew press yesterday, the two horrific recent accidents, whose combined toll was 18 fatalities, involved a truck and a bus. "They are a direct result of behavior patterns which have become the norm among truck drivers and bus drivers," he asserted.

Neither the statistics nor the general impression of mindlessness some drivers of heavy vehicles make on the road should reflect on the majority of such drivers. Most are responsible and cautious. But, as Dov Levy pointed out in an Op-Ed article in yesterday's *Jerusalem Post*, the phenomenon is too widespread to be described as the transgressions of "a few bad apples."

Clearly, driver education can do no harm, and a public relations campaign against violations of traffic laws and rudimentary road etiquette can be useful. So can infrastructure improvements, and safety measures like lighting, dividers, barriers and clear warnings of hazards on highways. And, undoubtedly, laws which prohibit pressuring bus drivers to meet unreasonable schedules and forcing truck drivers to work unconscionably long hours will also help.

But the main culprit, the most lethal cause of accidents, is speed. A drastic reduction of fatalities can be achieved only by lowering speed limits and enforcing them. But traffic police are so scarce on Israel's roads that exceeding the speed limit becomes an irresistible temptation. Proper enforcement may mean unpopular government expenditures on more police. But even the most tight-fisted legislator must realize that the toll of more than 500 annual deaths makes such spending a vital and urgent need.

CONGRATULATIONS TERNER, YOU WON!



OLEG 95

Madness & mean dogs

CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER

THE first law of peacekeeping is that when you have real peace, you don't need peacekeepers. When both parties are in military equilibrium and have no intention of fighting each other - Israel and Egypt, for example - peacekeepers are nice to have around, but they are mere window dressing.

The second law of peacekeeping is that where there is no peace, sending peacekeepers is a disaster. When the parties remained unreciprocated - as in Beirut or Somalia, for example - peacekeepers simply become targets.

The third law of peacekeeping is that Americans make the best targets. If you are unhappy with the imposed peace, there is nothing like blowing up 240 Marines or killing 18 US Army Rangers to make your point. Killing Americans is a faster way to victory than killing your traditional enemy.

From which follows one of the rare absolutes in foreign policy: Never send peacekeepers - certainly not American ones - to police an ongoing, unsettled war. Yet President Clinton long ago committed the US to sending 25,000 peacekeeping troops to police a Bosnian peace. He made this offer in his usual foreign policy way: unreflective offhandedness in the service of expediency.

And now, as a Bosnian agreement of sorts approaches, his bluff is about to be called. Must the country go along with his folly?

If, in the coming peace talks at an air force base in Dayton, Ohio, the Serbs, Croats and Bosnians can be brought to agree to a real peace, one they will be satisfied with and truly respect, that would be wonderful.

But why would we need Americans to police such a peace? Such a peace could be policed by Fijians or Pakistanis, by Canadians wearing UN blue helmets or some other multinational attire.

WHY ARE the Bosnians demanding American ground troops instead? Because none of the three warring, irreconcilable parties expects anything resembling a real peace. They aren't even pretending. Croatia, for example, has announced that if it doesn't get Eastern Slavonia by the end of November, it will go to war with Serbia to get it.

At Dayton, the parties may be grudgingly sign on a "peace" all

US 'peacekeepers' in Bosnia will be human tripwires for the Bosnians

know will amount to a limited, temporary cessation of hostilities - a hiatus long enough to allow the quick interposition of heavily armed NATO and American ground troops. And then what?

And then, innately, the US has made itself party to the conflict. There will be no avoiding it.

Whom are we going there to fight? Congress asked administration spokesmen at recent hearings. The administration answer: just rogue elements of the different militias who might violate the agreements their political leaders signed. But if any of the three parties sent regular troops against the Americans, they would presumably just give up and get out.

As if that can be accomplished without needless casualties, self-inflicted humiliation, and grave tension with allies who might be left behind. And as if the job of housebreaking overambitious "rogue" militias is the job of the

US army, and not of the Balkan parties' own political and military leadership.

What kind of neutrality - indispensable for any peacekeepers - is the US bringing to the conflict? Its sympathies for the Bosnian government side are pretty obvious, particularly to the Serbs, who have been on the receiving end of NATO air strikes and US Navy cruise missiles. Even more absurdly, the administration intends simultaneously to "peacekeep" and arm and train the Muslims.

Let's be clear: US troops will be in Bosnia not to peacekeep, but to protect the Bosnian government side. Their job will be to serve as human tripwires for the Bosnians. If Serbs or Croats move against the Bosnians, they will henceforth have to roll over the bodies of Americans first - and risk involving the US even more heavily on the side of the Sarajevo government.

Bosnia is about to see the transformation of an impotent UN Protection Force into a heavily armed US Protection Force. And the administration knows it. Secretary of Defense William Perry boasts that the US force in Bosnia will be "the meanest dog in town."

But real peacekeepers aren't supposed to be mean dogs. Real peacekeepers, like the ones in Sinai or Cyprus, are warm puppies. Their job is to carry binoculars, and smile and reassure everyone. You send a heavily armed infantry when you are going to protect and enforce.

It is hard to think of a greater folly than trying to enforce a peace among unreconciled Balkan enemies. It is a folly that, Clinton's fitful meanderings on Bosnia have backed his country into, a folly that must be firmly rejected now, before it is too late.

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Defeat at the end of the road

YOSEF GOELL

WHY haven't the haredim come out with the old argument of "honoring the religious-secular status quo" in their latest confrontation with secular Israelis over Jerusalem's Bar Ilan Street? Because their demand for the closure of this main thoroughfare on Shabbat clearly contravenes that status quo.

Although this time the haredim aren't crying "Status quo!" their demand, which amounts to cutting off large secular populations in north Jerusalem from the outside world on Saturdays, is an extreme example of catering solely to the interests of the haredi side.

Ehud Olmert became mayor two years ago on the basis of support from the haredi parties, who made their demand for the closure of Bar Ilan and numerous other streets clear from the beginning. To avoid immediate confrontation, Olmert appointed a committee to submit a compromise proposal. The Strum Committee has now come up with a compromise: closing Bar Ilan off during the hours of Shabbat prayers - in effect for most of the day. Clearly, the city's secular population won't accept this.

Olmert, totally beholden to his haredi coalition partners, evinced unusual political courage in declaring that he would not order Bar Ilan closed. But it isn't certain how long he will stick to his guns in the face of haredi threats to his coalition.

Even if he gives in to the haredi demands, the final decision lies

not with the municipality, but with the national transport authorities. Although the Rabin government has set an ignominious record of prostrating itself before the whims of its haredi Shas ex-coalition partners, it is very doubtful that it would dare close off Bar Ilan St. in an election year.

It's still too early to predict how that political game will play

The haredim could lose more than they gain by winning the battle of Bar Ilan St.

itself out. But it would be wise for the haredi leadership to mull over the wisdom of pressing secular Jerusalemites to the wall. It could cost haredi interests dear.

SECULAR and haredi Jews lead vastly different life styles, based on very different values. In our crowded country, it is next to impossible to guarantee any community hermetic isolation from "contamination."

Haredim are certainly within their rights to try to preserve their singular values and life style for their own members. They cross the boundaries of legitimacy, however, when they insist on imposing those values and that life style on others.

The haredi world is unwelcoming

anti-democratic, viewing the very concept of democracy as part of the hated modern world against which they are arrayed. It is thus fruitless to lecture haredi leaders on the democratic need to respect the rights of others.

But those leaders should be the first to be aware of the extreme vulnerability of their own communities to physical and political retaliation by secular Jews, driven to despair by haredi politicians determined to maximize a temporary political advantage.

The violence that a minority of haredi thugs have been fomenting on Bar Ilan St. on recent Shabbats will only engender counter-violence.

Consider, for example, the possibility - not so outlandish - of anti-religious toughs breaking into scores of haredi butcher shops and dousing their contents with milk.

Much more serious is the likelihood of political retaliation against what is a relatively small, if pugnacious, haredi minority. The haredi life style has been made possible by budgets squeezed out of an already strained national budget.

From a purely tactical viewpoint, haredi leaders should consider whether it is worth jeopardizing the advantages they have won from the secular state system for the sake of winning what could prove to be a Pyrrhic victory on that narrow battlefield called Rehov Bar Ilan.

The writer comments on public affairs.

What Ezer said

SUSAN HATTIS ROLEF

PRESIDENT Weizman reportedly expressed his contempt for Oslo 2 last week to a group of Israeli Arab leaders that included Deputy Knesset Speaker Salah Tarif, saying it had been hastily concluded and approved by only 61 Knesset members.

But according to Weizman's bureau chief Arye Shumer, what the president actually said was that even though a narrow majority had approved the agreement, it did pass approval.

Tarif reported Weizman as saying that had Yitzhak Rabin Goldfarb not received a Mitsubishi (on becoming deputy minister of Housing and Construction), the agreement wouldn't have passed approval. Shumer cited MK Abdel Wahab Darawshe as having said it was a Mitsubishi; Weizman corrected him, saying it was a really a Toyota.

Of the serious questions this incident raises, the first is whether the president is too outspoken in expressing his political views.

Though a majority of Israelis might agree with what Weizman reportedly said, the president, like the Queen of England, is expected to avoid controversial political statements which are liable to be leaked to the press.

It is true that there is hardly an issue related to our daily lives which doesn't have political connotations. Yet Weizman's predecessors all managed to steer clear of controversy.

If Weizman cannot or doesn't wish to do this, he should either return to politics, or to acting as agent for a Japanese car manufacturer (which is what he did for a time after leaving the Likud in the early 1980s).

ANOTHER question is whether we can believe what we read in papers.

In this particular case, the media can't be blamed for the confusion over what was actually said last Wednesday.

However, not all the papers reported Shumer's version of the incident, and it was mostly accepted that Tarif's report was accurate, that the president did speak out against Oslo 2.

All too often, the media report an alleged event, then fail to modify the original report when new evidence surfaces.

I recently came across this phenomenon while researching the murder of women by their spouses. My original list of about 80 murders that allegedly took place in the last five years was based on press reports.

After checking out the list at police headquarters, I discovered that one murder hadn't actually taken place, and that in at least four cases, the men who were reported by the media as being murderers were released after a brief investigation because of insufficient evidence to tie them to their wives' deaths.

A third question: Is an important agreement between it is approved by a bloc of 61 MKs, including all but one of the non-Jewish MKs, and two MKs who deserted an opposition party to join the coalition?

So long as the law doesn't state otherwise, almost all Knesset decisions and resolutions are adopted by a majority of the MKs present at the time of voting. Furthermore, it is only in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, and with regard to certain topics dealt with by the Finance Committee and the State Control Committee that Arab MKs are excluded.

Oslo 2 isn't the first crucial issue to have been decided by a narrow majority; nor was this the first narrow majority to include "deserters." The government formed by Yitzhak Shamir in June 1990 was also dependent on a political deserter, MK Efraim Gur, who was subsequently made deputy minister.

It is natural for a losing side to complain, and infuriating to lose by one vote.

But Shamir's government was valid and legitimate, as is the one that approved Oslo 2. And just as the Shamir government was brought down two years after it was formed, so Rabin's government might lose the next election should Israelis feel they don't like what it has been doing, and believe that the opposition offers a viable alternative.

The writer is a political scientist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

OUTRAGEOUS

Sir, - Your August 4 *Eye On The Media* describes the book *Introducing the Holocaust* by Haim Bresheeth and Stuart Hood (published by Totem Books), which compares Israel to Nazi Germany. Your readers may be surprised to learn that this book is sold in the gift shop of New York City's Jewish Museum, a prestigious institution that receives substantial funding from the Jewish community.

When we at the Zionist Organization of America became aware of the book last year, we immediately brought it to the attention of the museum director, Joan Rosenbaum. Finally, in May of this year, the museum announced its position: it would not stop distributing the book. Museum spokeswoman Anne Scher explained that "We were concerned [that discontinuing the book] would seem like censorship. We have many books in the shop that present many different points of view" (*New York Jewish Week*, May 19).

It is difficult to understand how the Jewish Museum can regard outrageous lies about Israel as a legitimate "different point of view." When the book declares that Israeli "practices and policies resemble those found in Germany in the 1930s," that "transferring the locals to neighboring countries was already laid down as an operating principle of Zionism in Theodor Herzl's book *Der Judenstaat*," and that Israel's "thinking and actions are influenced by Nazi methodology of occupation," it is not expressing a "different point of view" - it is simply lying.

A book which contains such horrible lies about Israel should not be distributed by any institution, especially a Jewish institution such as the Jewish Museum.

ENTRAPPING MADNESS

Sir, - As an "Anglo-Saxon" from the US who came to the country in 1946, I am in full agreement with Rabin's assessment of the sort of people who attacked him at the Event. I can imagine that those "Anglo-Saxons" from the US who would be even more vehemently against them. In fact, I am certain that they would be shocked that any Jew at all would act in such a fashion, especially those with children too young to have gone through the wars, and who live in parasitic communities with no sound economic base or reason to be except as provoking superfluous. Some such "Anglo-Saxons" claim they did not come to Israel because of pressure of being refugees. Perhaps then they should return to where their inexperience and rootlessness will have no bearing on whether or not grandparents of my WWII generation will be able to stop attending these terrible processions of grief to the military cemeteries.

I speak out as the mother of a lieutenant-colonel in the tanks who has been in the forefront battles of all the wars since he was 18 at the time of the Six Day War, and as the mother and grandmother of three other army men. I also speak out as someone brought up in the US and Canada who has never felt a clash between the values of childhood and those of Israel. I consider those who caused the nuclear at the Event poor souls who have lost their way into an entrapping madness.

MORTON A. KLEIN
National President,
Zionist Organization of America
New York.

very helpful.

I know that reader interest is always changing and that there is always something urgent that requires space - eg. I welcome Ruthie Blum's new consumer affairs column. Indeed, I read her other column with considerable interest and satisfaction. I do hope, though, that there will continue to be a space for Tal Katz.

PROF. HARVEY NARROL
Beersheba.

USEFUL COLUMN

Sir, - I noted with dismay that you are discontinuing Tal Katz's column - one of the most interesting, most useful and best written columns I have encountered in your newspaper in well over 16 years of daily reading. To be sure, I often know some of the things Katz presents to me. Certainly I cannot and do not immediately and/or ever use every article she writes - but I cut out and save them all. I find the Hebrew vocabulary she provides

JEAN KADMON
Jerusalem

סדרת האלון

What Ezer said

FEATURES

An outsider's ticket to Russian theater

THE rich Russian theatrical life, percolating, virtually unnoticed, beneath the cultural surface here is about to erupt into the open, thanks to director-turned-impresario Yuri Hilevich.

By offering Hebrew translation—probably opera-style super-titles—in all productions, and advertising in the Hebrew press, Hilevich hopes to lure veteran Israelis to theater already being imported directly from Russia.

Every night there about a dozen performances throughout Israel by artists from Russia, which are enjoyed only by a Russian-speaking audience. None is publicized in the non-Russian press.

"There are many new developments in Russian theater and entertainment these days and I want to show this to Israelis," says Hilevich.

Ultimately, he wants to create an umbrella organization that will bring to Israel the best of Russian art and entertainment on a regular basis. Theater is the starting point.

"In the first part of the century

Diaghilev had Russian seasons of ballet in Paris. I have a similar idea. I want to present the best Russian theater to Israeli theater buffs and I want Israelis to come and see it, too."

Hilevich has a history of working both sides of the cultural fence. After his initial visit here in 1989 as director of the Mali Theater from Russia, he immigrated and soon found work as a production manager and Soviet

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

tour organizer at Tel Aviv's Camen Theater.

His big dream is to create a year-long season of Russian theater, music and entertainment in Israel which will be sold on a subscription basis.

During his first year in the impresario business, however, Hilevich will test the market to see what works best.

The theater productions are already on their way to our shores.

Hilevich's inaugural Russian theater season here starts with Jean Genet's *The Maids*, directed by Roman Vytuck. The highly visual five-year-old production "for me is a sign of the new Russia. The production is anchored in the Russian technique of acting yet it is visually striking as well."

After *The Maids* (December 20-28), local theater buffs will be

able to enjoy Mark Rosovsky's *Story of a Horse* (January 28-February 16), a play staged here many years ago. Rosovsky's own theater company will present this production "and I think because people here are familiar with the play they will enjoy seeing it in a different version."

At the end of March local audiences will be able to enjoy a grand Russian rock opera, *Junona and Avas*, which has already

toured Broadway.

On the roster for the coming Russian season is the Vachtango Theater, which next May will present Ostrovsky's *Guiltless Wit* over *Fault*, while next fall Hilevich wants to present the winner of the Gold Mask award in Russia, a prize given to the best new production of the year.

For the coming Israel Festival Hilevich is planning to bring a production of Isaac Bashevis Singer's *The Magician of Lublin*.

Tickets for *The Maids* are already available in local ticket agencies. Tickets for the other productions will go on sale closer to the respective dates.

Janet Jackson, a singing doll

NEW RELEASES
TIRZAH AGASSI

JANET Jackson may sport the same plastic face as her brother Michael, but the difference between them is more than a pair of silicone breasts. Unlike her self-mutilating sibling, Janet positively radiates good health.

In her latest video "Runaway," Jackson becomes a fairy-tale character, leaping from global monument to global monument like a kung-fu heroine. Along the way, she also manages to join two other dancers in an Asian-influenced sequence, executed on an airliner wing.

It's a marvelous piece of entertainment, a fast-paced update of classic Hollywood musicals. The song, with its constant punctuation of temple bells, even sounds pretty good heard on its own as the opening track of *Design of a Decade 1986/1996* (Helicon). Jackson's new greatest hits selection. That's the good news. The bad news is that listening to 18 consecutive formulaic dance tracks without the visual aid of her sumptuously imaginative videos, is a bit like discovering the picture of Dorian Grey.

Brother Michael may wear his sickness on his lacy sleeve, but for all his sad confusion, one can still hear his soul somewhere in there under the scar tissue. Janet, on the other hand, is such a delightful on-screen Barbie that it comes as a shock to hear the audio evidence of her twin's stunted growth. Jackson is sweet, sassy, snappy and even assertive, but she is never, ever in the slightest bit deep.

THE FIRST time I happened upon Michael Bolton on American TV I was blown away. Who was this pretty white boy singing "Georgia On My Mind" with none other than Ray Charles? His lack of inhibition and aptitude of soul were phenomenal. Unfortunately subsequent investigation left me less thrilled by self-penned romantic numbers that I for one, couldn't quite believe.

What to say about Michael Bolton: *Greatest Hits 1985-1995*? He can sing. He does sing. He offers full-bodied versions of "(Sittin' On) The Dock of the Bay," "When a Man Loves a Woman," and "Lean On Me" and original hits like "How Am I Supposed to Live Without You." He plays baseball and tennis and has started a foundation to support children and women "at risk" of battering.

How can one say a critical word about a guy like this? I can't really; the feeling is purely personal. I just happen to find 17 songs, each of which is a three- or four-minute emotional crescendo, to be tiring when heard one after another. But any one who loves Bolton will think that I should have my head examined.

DO YOU remember John Mayall of John Mayall & the Blues Breakers fame? Weren't they enormously influential way back in the Sixties? I once saw a gray-bearded, shirtless Mayall in a California club and thought him a washed-up macho jerk. Thus it was a pleasant surprise to tune into *Spinning Coin* (Hed Arzi) and find out that someone I'd given up for dead eons ago is alive, well, "complicated" and "kickin'." In fact, this is one of the most listenable albums I've come across in months.

Mayall sings with effortless honesty and plays Hammond organ, piano, synthesizers, 12- and six-string guitars and harmonica. He is joined by three contemporary Bluesbreakers, including amazing drummer Joe Yule, and various guests.

Mayall may be singing and playing songs of experience, but he doesn't have a world-weary

bone in his body. Overall, the album presents an 11-track morality play. Starting out with the cautionary "When the Devil Starts Crying" and moving through "Spinning the Coin," the lament of a down-on-his-luck trucker, Mayall lets us know that he's an ordinary guy. He offers the rush of "Ain't No Brakeman (On This Train)" and the remorse of "Double Life Feelings," a song about how lousy it feels to cheat. Every song tells a story, and every story is full of musical clout.

Finally, on "Remember This," though he's neither a poet, nor a political philosopher, the bluesman sits down like an earnest father trying to pass on the sum total of what he's learned in life. He uses the word Nazis and he sings of millions who died. He spells out his worry about history repeating itself, and plays a church organ and some weird plunky piano notes that remind us of how to live life right. It is such a pleasure to tune into a mature man who knows exactly what he's doing.



Without the distraction of videos, Jackson's greatest hits are revealed as extremely formulaic. (Bruce Weber)

A 'Swan' from Riga

DANCE-LOVERS over 50 have usually seen the immortal *Swan Lake* several times, and somehow each new performance has its own allure. This time, performed by the Riga Ballet, in addition to beautiful costumes, exceptional dancing, and four full acts, it had an element of surprise.

In the first act, the festive dances were mostly of courtiers, with only a token of peasant participation. Yet all the ballerinas were so light that it was a pleasure to see how much they seemed at home on their toes.

Thus, the second act was almost a disappointment. Inta Dumpe as Odette, the swan princess, concentrated more on the perfection of her technique than the emotional quotient, while Andre Romanov, though personable and strong, was no more than was expected.

Dumpe was finer as Odile, the wicked magician's daughter impersonating Odette the swan. She was brilliant as the black seducer in Act Three, but it was really in the final act that she achieved tragic pathos. Romanov's elevation and firm support lifted the performance to a new height, both at the Mann Auditorium (Oct. 26) and the Sherover Theater in Jerusalem (Oct. 28).

THREE PREMIERES on one program by any company at any time is a bumper offering, but the Israel Ballet, opening its season on October 22 at the Jerusalem Sherover Theater, did even more. It brought Rudi van Danzig from Holland, where he had been the long-time director of the Dutch National Ballet, to set one of his finest works, *Four Last Songs*, to the music of Richard Strauss.

The work that brought the house down was *Percussion for Six Men* by Vincente Nebrada, a Venezuelan-born American dancer-choreographer. Many an athlete would be hard put to perform the seemingly simple turns and leaps with the grace and skill that the dancers took in their stride.

Van Danzig's poem for four couples also required technical skill, but it demanded thoughtfulness as well. The four pairs were monitored by a dark-clad figure called Angel of Death. He wasn't frightening, but simply an inevitable guide at the decisive moment. Unfortunately, the choreography for each pair was not sufficiently differentiated for the four stages of life.

The program opened with Fokine's *Chopiniana*, the forerunner to his masterpiece *Les Sylphides*, staged by Cora Benador. Though charmingly done, it had neither the polish required for it nor the éclat that its later version never fails to evoke. *Dora Sowden*

'Don Pasquale' puts some pep back into the opera's season

CONCERT ROUNDUP

AFTER the debacle of *Carmen*, the New Israeli Opera desperately needed a big success. Such a triumph materialized with the revival production of Donizetti's opera buffa *Don Pasquale*.

The four principals, Francois Loup as the Don, John Hancock as the Dottore, Bonaventura Bottone as Ernesto and Sharon Rostorf as Norina, made up a remarkable quartet. Vocally they acquitted themselves with flying colors and, under the inspired direction of Patrick Mason and revival director Nicolette Molina, they gave us an evening of exquisite entertainment, sparkling gaiety and gorgeous wit.

Under the baton of Jonathan Webb, orchestra, choir and soloist all seemed joined together seamlessly.

Don Pasquale is two hours 40 minutes of straight-from-the-shoulder amusement.

The Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center, October 23.
Benjamin Bar-Am

COPLAND's *Music for the Theater*, conducted by the Russian-born Leonid Grin, in the Sinfonietta's subscription concert No. 2, sounded reasonably entertaining, though the bluesy tunes lacked the drawl typical of these melodies.

Grin also gave a nonchalant rendition of Brahms's *Serenade No. 2*.

Uruguay-born pianist Homero Franceschi knows how to savor the melodic content of Mozart's piano concerto in A major. He displayed a well-developed sense of shaping phrases, in both the slow movement and the fast ones.

The adagio's lyricism was expressed convincingly, while the last movement was more energetic than elegant, possibly because the pianist's Latin temperament got the better of Viennese playfulness.

Jerusalem Theater, October 22.
Ury Eppstein

MOZART's piano concerto in A major, conducted by David Shalton, was also the centerpiece of the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra's opening concert of the season.

Finland's Olli Mustonen played with immense drive and enormous unpredictability. An extremely light touch, exemplified in the occasional exquisite pianissimo, alternated with tempestuous outbursts and Papageno-like naughtiness, in the fast movements. An atmosphere of dream-like poetry prevailed in the slow one. This was playing with a distinct personal touch.

even caprice.

In its world premiere, Shlomo Gronich's flute concerto *Halil 3000*, commissioned by the JSO for Jerusalem's trillennial celebrations, was as communicative as it was eclectic. Lots of heterogeneous elements that can be associated with Jerusalem's townscape—from an ancient-sounding shepherd-flute and church bells to the din of modern city noises and rock rhythms—were manipulated skillfully. And flutist Noam Buchman admirably evoked the work's changing moods.

The rendition of Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite* captured many of its delicate turns and twists with loving care.

Jerusalem Theater, October 25.
Ury Eppstein

A NEW matinee chamber music series entitled Friday Music from Ein Kerem has been inaugurated at the Targ Center by the Amati Quartet from Switzerland.

These young musicians are already past the promising stage. They sounded homogeneous and well-balanced and, after warming up too slowly in the Mozart Quartet K.421, were full of freshness and fervor.

Their sense of obligation to contemporary Swiss music de-

serves appreciation, although their choice may be somewhat limited. The Swiss Hermann Haller's Quartet No. 3 (1991), an Israeli premiere, featured a Late Romantic style. It abounded in tremolos, sharp accentuations and strong contrasts. And its dissonances lent it some credibility as a 20th-century work.

Targ Music Center, Ein Kerem, October 20.
Ury Eppstein

STANLEY Sperber should be congratulated for opening the Haifa Symphony Orchestra's season with three contrasting, sometimes difficult local premieres.

The most impressive part of the evening was Michael Haydn's Requiem in C minor, which preceded Mozart's Requiem by two decades and no doubt served as the basis for Mozart's final composition.

The HSO strings played with warmth and precision. The Hertfordshire Chorus sang in the correct style and the four visiting soloists added beauty.

Flutist Marcelo Ehrlich brilliantly played the solo part in Paul Schoenfield's *Klezmer Rondo* which at its best is eclectic and at its worst a mishmash. The orchestra, particularly the winds

and brass, played superbly under Sperber's precise and lively direction.

The program opened with Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music*, featuring Nelly Grinberg.

Haifa Auditorium, October 23.
Michael Ajzenstadt

WORKS by Bach and some of his Italian predecessors and contemporaries marked the completion of the annual Early Music Workshop. The Italian Baroque's pluralism was demonstrated by an abundance of styles, different vocal sonorities and numerous instruments.

A Monteverdi motet was followed by a Legrenzi cantata and a Marcello psalm to highlight the dark bass of Richard Wistreich.

The caressing smoothness and softness of the Baroque flute, a far cry from the silvery brilliance of its classical descendant, was displayed by Janet See in sonatas by Bach and Locatelli.

On the period's opposite threshold, Geminiani represented almost classical drama in a

Baroque cello sonata, rendered with refreshing temperament by Marion Middletonway.

Harpichordist John Toll made a quest for velocity in Bach's *Chromatic Fantasia*, calming down to a reasonable tempo and a transparent, finely shaped fugue.

St. Andrew's Church, Jerusalem, October 18.
Ury Eppstein

TOWER RECORDS TOP 15				
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	ON CHARTS	ARTIST	TITLE
#1	NEW	1	AVTIPUS	WHAT A WITHERMAN KNOWS
#2	5	1	SHALOM HANOCH	VO-LENCE
#3	1	3	FILM SOUND TRACK	PULP FICTION
#4	2	16	CRANBERRIES	NO NEED TO ARGUE
#5	3	4	VARIOUS ARTISTS	HIT LIST 3
#6	18	70	BOAZ SHARABI	YOU ARE THE NIGHT TO ME
#7	6	8	NATASHA'S FRIENDS	RADIO BLAH BLAH
#8	4	8	MASHINA	SO LONG
#9	13	24	RITA	THE GRAND LOVE
#10	RE	1	AKHINOM NINI	NIM/DOR
#11	RE	1	NIRVANA	UNPLUGGED IN N.Y.
#12	B	15	STING	FIELDS OF GOLD
#13	NEW	1	VARIOUS ARTISTS	TOP POP 95
#14	15	2	LUCIANO PAVAROTTI	PAVAROTTI AND FRIENDS
#15	B	14	SADE	BEST OF

Tower Records' top-selling albums for the previous week. RE - re-entry

New troupe has everything going for it - except decent acting

MARRIAGE

By Nikolai Gogol. Hebrew. Yaakov Besser. Direction. Elena Kreindin. Design. Elena Stepanova. Choreography. Marina Belyov. Music. Ilya Dimov. Lighting. Dov Minkah and Boris Volkov. Hebrew title, *Shiduchim*. The Garrick Theater at the Rezin Auditorium, Ramat Aviv Gimmel.

Cast: Graduate actors of the Nissan Nativ Acting Studio. Jerusalem, 1995 in their first appearance on a professional stage.

A splinter group of the renowned Gashar Theater, the newly established Garrick Theater, brandishes brave words to justify its goal. As well as bringing "unique and innovative theatrical events to the Israeli stage," it plans "to make use of the rich traditions and experience of Russian theater in order to harness the creativity and exuberance of often

untapped resources of Israeli theater, and to make the future of Israeli theater something to look forward to."

Amen, halevai, inshallah! However, what in fact is achieved so far, if almost as grandiose, is nonetheless not quite as promised.

A bilious 1842 one-act play, *Marriage* (produced at the Mermaid Theater as *The Marriage Broker* in 1956), burlesques the tortuous twists of matchmaking and marriage, czarist style. True to intent, Garrick gives the show the benefit of Russian theater's most biting satirical idiom. It also delivers a level of sophisticated direction, design, choreography, music and lighting that does not often make it simultaneously to our stages.

But when it comes to newly-hatched actors, what have these brilliant immigrant Russians

been able to do for local talent that others could not? So far, very little. Weak stage skills hide behind the panache of costumes, choreography and direction. Thanks to superbly orchestrated timing, the young actors move magnificently. But except for one highly promising pair, Tamara Stern (the bride) and Baruch Bremner (Kotcharov), they excel in little else.

What stands out is the incongruous imbalance between the highly accomplished, richly creative, behind-the-scenes talent on the one hand, and the inexperienced, too often overwrought, performance on stage. In sum, the Garrick Theater as of now is more of a showcase for the masterpieces of its talented creators than a magnet for the untapped resources of its actors.

Naomi Dondai

WITH PREJUDICE - from the column by Alex Bar-Yona, where he was regularly "bullying" about anything he wanted. He mind is either a fount of erudition or a rubbish dump, depending on your point of view, but every column is a multicolored well of associations, allusions, quotes - a pleasure and a challenge to a literary reader.

Published by Jerusalem Post/Carta, Hardcover, 258 pp. ISBN: 965-734-000-0. JP Price: NIS 24.00

TIME OF MY LIFE - educated in the open university of life, Vito von Lauer presents the significant episodes from the story of his life, which, like scenes on a stage, are canvases, add up to a total that is greater than the mere sum of its parts. Published by Carta/The Jerusalem Post, Hardcover, 363 pp. ISBN: 965-734-000-0. JP Price: NIS 24.00

PERSONALIA

Full of wit and humor, nostalgia and contemporary Israeli subjects, these books should appeal to every fan of the three brilliant columnists.

With Prejudice

A PERSONAL ENCYCLOPEDIA - And How to Write Your Own. Helps Outmaneuver the autobiography by evolving a series of housewarming episodes. This is her way of comingling with fragments of life - the events, people, places, ideas, fuzzy memories and long-forgotten letters - that litter the past of each of us. Published by Carta, Hardcover, 192 pp. JP Price: NIS 22.00. All prices include VAT and mailing in Israel. Buy all three for NIS 64.00 ONLY!

Time of My Life

TIME OF MY LIFE - educated in the open university of life, Vito von Lauer presents the significant episodes from the story of his life, which, like scenes on a stage, are canvases, add up to a total that is greater than the mere sum of its parts. Published by Carta/The Jerusalem Post, Hardcover, 363 pp. ISBN: 965-734-000-0. JP Price: NIS 24.00

Personal Encyclopaedia

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Tel. (day) _____ Signature _____

BUSINESS & FINANCE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1995

Indigo shares plunge 38.5%

Company issues second profits warning in two quarters

RACHEL NEIMAN
and Bloomberg

SHARES in Indigo collapsed 38.5 percent to 10 yesterday on the Nasdaq Market in New York after the company issued its second profits warning in two quarters.

Indigo's announcement that it will lose about \$13 million in both the third and fourth quarters sent the share, which closed Friday at 16¢, tumbling to as low as 7¢, its lowest point since it went public in 1994.

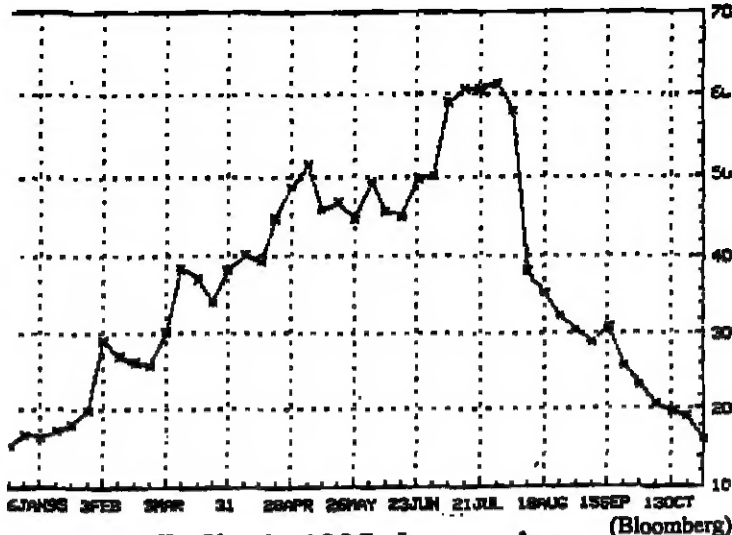
Volume was about 2.7 million shares, more than 10 times the average daily trading of 252,000 in the last three months.

The poor results were due to lessened demand caused by slower-than-expected growth of its customers' printing businesses, the company said. At the same time, Indigo said "expenses have continued to increase in anticipation of further growth in sales."

Indigo develops, manufactures, markets and services digital offset color printing systems and related products.

This year was supposed to be the company's first profitable one after Indigo underwrote Lehman Brothers forecast 1995 earnings per share at \$0.63.

Instead, first quarter net losses were \$745,000 and second quarter losses jumped to \$6.72m.



Indigo's 1995 share prices

(Bloomberg)

The company's market value has nosedived since late July, when Indigo shares reached a high of 64¢.

"It is clear that our long-term success requires short-term and ongoing investment at a higher rate than we originally anticipated," Indigo founder, chairman and CEO Benny Landa said.

"We are taking restructuring and other cost-saving measures that will result in quarterly savings of more than \$4m, starting in the first quarter of 1996. These measures will result in substantial fourth-quarter charges contributing to the aforementioned

losses."

Indigo will implement a change in focus and management, Landa said. The company has introduced a series of initiatives designed to improve long-term operating and financial performance by focusing on market development and reducing costs.

"We are going to shift the center of gravity of the company's senior management to our key markets, the US and Europe," said Landa. "For my own part, I will personally be focusing most of my time and attention on market related matters."



Benny Landa: Our long-term success requires short-term and ongoing investment at a higher rate than we originally anticipated. (MS Communications)

Changes will include relocation or replacement of certain key senior staff members. "The company intends to have, by the second half of 1996, more of its senior management team - including the president - reside closer to its customers," said Landa.

Indigo president Giora Yaron has indicated to Landa he was not interested in moving "for personal reasons." Yaron will concentrate on operational matters and has agreed to remain on Indigo's board of directors.

Third quarter financial results will be announced in mid-November.

Bezek, Sprint offer new 'frame relay' services

JUDY SIEGEL

A NEW high-speed data technology called frame relay was inaugurated yesterday at the Jerusalem Business Conference by Bezek and the giant telecommunications company Sprint.

Bezek director-general Yitzhak Kaul and Sprint International president Chris Rooney launched it at Bezek's booth at the Jerusalem International Convention Center.

Frame relay simplifies local area network (LAN) communications by transmitting large amounts of data cheaply, reducing the cost of equipment and of operating expenses.

Service will be provided to Israeli customers over an extensive, 40-node nationwide network that links up with Sprint's global frame relay network, with access centers in more than 25 countries.

The service lets employees of companies or organizations with offices here or around the world to communicate with each other cheaply.

"Bezek is becoming a global company," Kaul said at the ceremony. "Any international customer can turn to Bezek and get international communications network services with true one-

stop shopping. It is no longer necessary to turn to a number of companies."

Sprint frame relay customers abroad will also be able to connect with their clients and business partners here and can choose to be billed in their local currency, Rooney added.

Sprint boasts \$12.6 billion in annual revenues and \$14b. in assets. It operates fiber-optic networks, voice services and data links to over 120 countries and a videoconferencing network serving 40 countries.

Bezek shares rose one percent yesterday on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

IEC names temporary chairman

RACHEL NEIMAN

THE Israel Electric Corporation has named Hanoch Milo as temporary board chairman, replacing Adi Amos, who stepped down last Thursday after a three-year term.

The permanent IEC chairman will be nominated on the recommendation of Energy Minister Gonen Segov and Finance Minister Avraham Shohat.

IEC released a statement calling for a quick transition period "and to decide within a short time on an agreed upon nominee who will head the board and guide the company toward future challenges."

IEC further said it was "convinced market needs, consumer satisfaction and company needs required the nomination of a new board chairman as soon as possible."

Until a new chairman is nominated, Milo - a member of IEC's board - will have the authority to run board meetings, determine agendas and set meeting dates.

Citrus Board: Closure may cost pomelo sector millions of dollars

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE pomelo sector may lose millions of dollars as a result of the closure of the territories, which has led to a shortage in pickers, the Citrus Marketing Board warned yesterday.

Board chairman Danny Krizman said Israel has received large orders to supply Japan with pomelos, and the Japanese expect to receive the fruit in the coming weeks.

"If the government does not take measures to

supply more foreign workers we will not be able to meet demand," Krizman said.

"This will not only damage Israel's credibility with regard to deadlines but will also lead to losses of millions of dollars."

Krizman also said failure to supply pomelos to Japan will encourage other citrus-exporting countries to increase their share of the market at the expense of Israel.

Leeson drops opposition to Singapore extradition

SINGAPORE (AP) - Nick Leeson, whose futures trades in Singapore helped bring down Britain's Barings Bank, will likely be extradited to Singapore in four weeks, his lawyer said yesterday.

Leeson, 28, was arrested in Germany in March after fleeing Singapore, and had been fighting the extradition process to face 11 counts of fraud of forgery charges here. If convicted, he faces up to 14 years in prison.

But in a surprise move Sunday, Leeson announced he is willing to return to Singapore and won't appeal an extradition order issued by a German court last month.

German authorities will now process the extradition request by Singapore's fraud squad, the Commercial Affairs Department, and "we expect Leeson to come here in four weeks," his lawyer, John Koh, said.

Barings collapsed on February 27 after Leeson, the bank's Singapore general manager of futures trading, lost \$860 million on

Asian futures markets, wiping out the bank's cash reserves.

ING Group of the Netherlands acquired the remains of the 232-year-old bank soon after.

Singapore authorities say Leeson forged some documents to cover up his activities at the Singapore International Monetary Exchange Ltd., or SIMEX.

At a news conference, SIMEX chairman Elizabeth Sam welcomed the report on Leeson.

Leeson initially expressed fears he would not receive a fair trial in Singapore and had wanted to be tried in his native Britain.

But Leeson changed his mind, Koh said.

In a statement released in London and Singapore, Leeson said: "After consulting my legal advisers I am satisfied that I will be fairly tried and judged in Singapore. I wish to apologize to all Singaporeans for having doubted that I would receive a fair trial."

It is not immediately clear when his trial will start.

Average credit rates increase to 18.86% during September

Post Business Staff

THE average bank interest rate on savings deposits decreased last month, while public credit rates increased from 18.74 percent in August to 18.86 percent in September, the Bank of Israel reported yesterday.

The interest rate on fixed-term credit increased to 17.08 percent in September, compared to August's rate of 16.93 percent.

The rate on checking and business accounts increased from 20.91 percent to 21 percent.

Bank of Israel said the increases were average and added that their impacts will only be evaluated at the end of October.

The average interest rate on public deposits decreased in September from 11.17 percent in August to 11.08 percent in September.

Interest on fixed term deposits decreased to 12.64 percent in September

from August's rate of 12.7 percent.

The difference between the interest the banks charge and the interest they pay on deposits increased in September from 7.78 percent to 7.57 percent last month.

The difference between assets and liabilities decreased from 6.13 percent to 5.95 percent in September.

The average balance of unlinked shekel credit decreased in September to NIS 55.7 billion from NIS 56b. last month.

The Bank of Israel also announced that the interest rate on non-linked, non-bank loans was 19.73 percent in August, compared to 19.99 percent in July.

The law for non-bank loans, which was enacted in 1993, set the maximum credit rate for grey market loans at 2.25 times the average cost of non-linked credit the banks offer the public.

Danone in serious talks to buy 10% of Strauss group

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE French-based European foods giant Danone is in advanced negotiations to purchase at least 10 percent of the Strauss group, one of the country's largest privately owned food manufacturers.

According to Globes, Strauss's value has been estimated at between \$100 million and \$120m. for the purpose of the transaction. A company spokesman refused to confirm the sum.

The firms entered serious talks several months ago, after Danone representatives visited the Strauss dairies in Nabariya.

Sources close to the companies said Danone intends to purchase a stake in Strauss, which will give it the power to take an active part in formulating the company's business and management strategy.

Strauss already uses the Danone brand name on some of its yogurt products.

Strauss expects to end the year with sales of more than \$200m. In 1994 the company sales totaled \$180m.

Strauss recently completed a reorganization process whereby its business was separated into three manufacturing divisions - dairy, ice cream and salads.

The dairy division produces dairy desserts, yogurts and cheeses, while the ice cream division produces some 250 kinds of ice cream and sorbets.

Two months ago international food manufacturer Unilever purchased a 50% stake in the ice cream division.

Investors in Amman: Arab markets must liberalize to attract foreigners

AMMAN (Reuters) - Arab stock exchanges have to lift restrictions and reform if they are serious about attracting major foreign capital, global investors said yesterday.

Emerging market fund managers at the Middle East and North Africa summit in Amman said regional equity markets were characterized by lack of depth, poor transparency and liquidity shortage - with the exception of Israel - and still too hampered by government controls and restraints on foreign ownership.

"Let's not lose sight that Arab markets are not playing the scale of the role played in Asia and Latin America," said William Rytie, vice chairman of the UK-based Baring Holding Company.

"They are small relative to the economies and not attracting foreign investment."

Fund managers estimated that out of a total of \$65 billion of capital floated into emerging

markets in the peak year of 1993, only 0.3 percent trickled to Arab markets. The share in an estimated \$25b. so far this year is also insignificant.

Rytie said along with "obstacles caused by wars of the past, there have been obstacles created by too much government control, too much regulation."

Muscat Stock Exchange executive president Mahmoud Jarwani, while admitting short-comings of regional Arab markets, said recent legislation - including mutual funds and more steps toward widening foreign ownership - are making some markets more attractive to investors.

He said Arab stock markets would need time to catch up with international markets, with a lack of expertise and human skills

hampering growth.

"I cannot attain the pace of a stock market functioning for 150 years and my age is only five years... the difference is a time gap," he said.

Jarwani said he hoped foreign ownership in the Omani market would rise in the next few years to 25 percent of the market's total capitalization, from a current 14 percent.

"We would have made a big leap if we can reach 25 percent in the next few years," he said.

International investors also cite other reasons that have discouraged inflows of capital into Arab markets - including historical sentiment, lack of regulatory bodies and poor disclosure rules.

Further structural economic reforms that widen the role of the private sector, accelerate the

pace of privatization and liberalize capital markets are needed, along with internal reforms and creation of regulatory bodies, they added.

But the region's potential was huge, buoyed by political stability in the wake of Middle East peace, global investors said. "The potential of a major inflow of capital from abroad is there with peace," said Rytie.

Angus Blair of Barings Securities International said: "I do anticipate more foreign investment, but it is not going to be a large flow in the short term, but it will grow."

Echoing sentiment of global fund managers, he warned that "competition for capital is getting tougher, while the Arab market is still small."

BUSINESS BRIEFS

The board of directors of Magal Security Systems Ltd., which is traded on NASDAQ, has recommended that the shareholders of the company approve the distribution of a five-percent stock dividend to its shareholders. **Bloomberg**

Bank Hapoalim has appointed Ya'acov Rosen as general manager of Pe'ilim, which manages investment portfolios. Rosen has spent the last five years as director general of Ganil Investment Company. **Galit Lipkis Beck**

Jerusalem Country Cookies, previously named Kfar Sava Biscuits, plans to inaugurate its new factory in Beit Shemesh today. The company has invested \$3 million in the plant, which is situated on a 5.5-dunam plot. The company previously operated from its factory in Kfar Sava. **Galit Lipkis Beck**

Isracard has started to offer house insurance policies to those traveling abroad, the company announced. The credit card firm decided to provide the insurance following the Insurance Companies Association's recent report that 63 percent of the country's 1.3 million households do not have house insurance policies. The insurance plan is for a 30-day period, with the possibility of extending it to 60 days. **Galit Lipkis Beck**

Nice Systems has signed an agreement to install its NiceLog Digital Voice Logging System at the Sydney Futures Exchange in Australia. The NiceLog system will replace the exchange's old recording system by the end of November, to coincide with NiceLog's new software release. **Galit Lipkis Beck**

WORLD BRIEFS

US incomes, spending gain in September: Consumer incomes went up for a fourth consecutive month in September, the US Commerce Department said yesterday, but spending rose only slightly as more of the extra money went into savings. **Reuters**

Total income from all sources rose 0.4 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$6.10 trillion following a revised 0.1 percent rise in August. Spending rose 0.2 percent to a rate of \$4.92t. after a much stronger revised 0.8 percent August rise. **Reuters**

Slower UK money growth boosts rate cut hopes: Britain's narrow measure of money supply, M0, grew by only 0.3 percent in October, according to data yesterday, encouraging speculation the next move in interest rates will be down. **Reuters**

The annual growth rate slid to its lowest rate for two years at 5.2 percent, below September's level of 5.5 percent and analysts' predictions of 5.4 percent. **Reuters**

London Electricity back in bid spotlight: Only days before Britain announces whether it will clear a takeover bid that could create the country's first multi-utility, London Electricity was back in the sector's takeover spotlight yesterday. The regional electricity company's stock surged 18 pence to 920 pence amid feverish speculation that Thames Water was sizing it up for a deal - potentially the second time a British water company has pounced on a REC. **Reuters**

Thames, which serves the greater London area, declined to comment ahead of reporting half-year results today, and London also held its tongue. **Reuters**

Mannesmann sells Hartmann for DM 1 billion: Mannesmann AG, the German engineering and technology group, said yesterday it would sell its Hartmann & Braun unit for around DM 1 billion to Dutch Eltag Bailey Process Automation NV. The two firms signed a definitive agreement and expected to complete the sale by the end of the year, pending final approval by the Mannesmann supervisory board and relevant regulatory authorities. **Reuters**

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patash (foreign currency deposit rates) (\$1,10.95)				
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	5.000	5.000	5.000	
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.750	4.750	4.750	
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.625	2.625	2.625	
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	1.000	1.000	1.000	
Yen (¥10 million yen)	-	-	-	
Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (\$1,10.95)				
Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	3.5498	3.5147	2.98	3.11
German mark	3.0148	3.0829	2.06	2.21
French franc	2.1682	2.1707	1.62	1.68
Japanese yen (¥100)	0.0143	0.0243	0.60	0.68
Dutch guilder	2.9583	3.0071	2.30	2.35
Swedish krona	1.9151	1.9358	1.57	1.57
Swiss franc	2.8419	2.8846	1.87	1.87
Spanish peseta	0.4545	0.4619	0.43	0.47
Portuguese escudo	0.0503	0.0522	0.09	0.09
Italian lira	0.0707	0.0781	0.67	0.67
Spanish peseta	2.2060	2.2406	2.16	2.28
Australian dollar	2.2882	2.3252	2.24	2.36
S. African rand	0.8230	0.8334	0.74	0.74
Belgian franc (¥10)	1.0373	1.0547	1.02	1.07
Austrian schilling (¥10)	3.3268	3.0618	2.38	2.13
Italian lira (¥1000)	1.8774	1.9278	1.85	1.85
Japanese yen	-	-	4.14	4.14
Spanish peseta	3.3125	3.3268	0.88	0.88
Israeli shekel	4.8885	4.9450	4.78	4.82
Spanish peseta (¥100)	2.4813	2.5010	2.41	2.54

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Reading between the lines... you have time for trading action until 11 PM.



JOIN 108 TELEBANK
DIAL 03-5199111 FROM 8 AM TO 11 PM.
D ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

הדואר הארצי

FELICE MARANZ



Gains were led by Teva Phar- count Investment Corp., which fell 0.25%. (Bloomberg)

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

WALL STREET REPORT

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

	MARK	STERLING	YEN	SFR	FFr
MARK	—	0.4488/02	72.31/34	0.8098/71	2.4712/17
STERLING	2.2217/27	—	160.58/78	1.7820/44	7.7108/81
YEN	1.3817/35	0.6218/26	—	1.1147/65	4.7964/35
SFR	123.85/00	0.5573/30	88.50/85	—	4.2900/50
FFr	0.2878/82	0.1298/57	20.88/87	0.0000/00	—

not market listings are from approximately
(1) local time. All others are closing quotes.)

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Two-sided trading

Commercial Banks

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Mortgage Banks & Finance

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Financial Institutions

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Trade & Services

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Industries

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Oil Exploration

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Investment Companies

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Insurance

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Real Estate

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Technology

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Healthcare

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Property, Building & Agriculture

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Transportation

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Telecommunications

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Energy

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Consumer Goods

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Food & Beverage

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	17368	-7.2
Bank Hapoalim	155.50	0.3
Bank Mizrahi	14521	
Bank Leumi	151.40	

Oil Exploration

[illegible]

Sampras in position to recapture No. 1 ranking as Paris Open begins

PARIS (Reuters) - Pete Sampras will recapture the No. 1 spot from fellow American Andre Agassi next week, a spokesman for the ATP Tour said yesterday.

Sampras, who was overtaken by Agassi last April, earned 215 points by reaching the semifinals in Essen last week. This kept Sampras in second place in yesterday's rankings with 5,048 points compared to Agassi's 5,279.

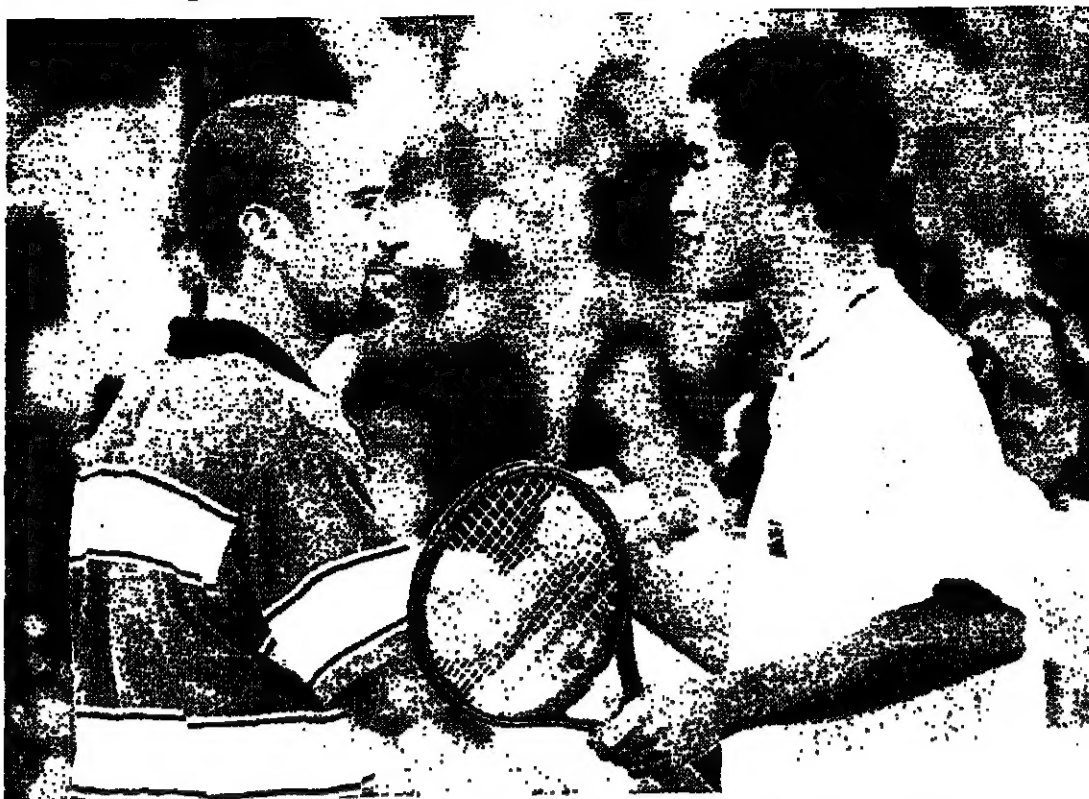
But Agassi, who won the Paris Open last year, is out of the lucrative indoor event with injury and will drop 559 points.

Sampras, who fell to Agassi in the quarter-finals here last year, would only lose 125 points if he is beaten in his opening match in the second round against either Swede Jonas Bjorkman or Frenchman Arnaud Boetsch tomorrow.

"It's a bit more complicated than that because under the ATP Tour rules, they can compensate some of the points they lose with points from other tournaments, but anyway it is certain that Sampras will be No. 1 on November 6, even if it's not for long," the spokesman said.

He added that Agassi, or even world No. 3 Austrian Thomas Muster, who won in Essen on Sunday, could move past Sampras the following week.

The race for the privilege of ending the year as the number one player would ultimately be decided in the ATP Tour world championship starting on November 13 in Frankfurt.



FRIENDLY COMPETITION - Andre Agassi (l), shown here at September's US Open, is about to be knocked out of his world No. 1 ranking by Pete Sampras (r). (Reuters)

Meanwhile, US Open sensation Byron Black of Zimbabwe made a tentative start to the Paris Open with a hard-fought, straight-sets win over Romanian qualifier Andrei Pavel yesterday.

Black, who impressed by reaching the quarter-finals at Flushing Meadows last month after wins over Swede Thomas Enqvist and German Michael Stich, needed a tiebreak to overcome unheralded Pavel 7-6, 6-3

and set up a second-round clash with fellow American Michael Chang, seeded fourth.

American veteran David Wheaton was far more convincing as he demolished Italian Renzo Furlan 6-2, 6-3 in the near-empty Bercy arena, where the seeds will not appear until Tuesday.

Another American, Richey Reneberg, also moved through to the second round by beating Ger-

man Martin Sinner in straight sets, 6-2, 7-5.

There was disappointment for the home fans who saw Frenchman Lionel Roux, ranked 77th in the world, fall to Dutchman Hendrik-Jan Davids, a modest 413th in the ATP Tour rankings.

Roux, who had upset Stich on his way to a third-round exit last year, looked clumsy as he lost 6-2, 3-6, 6-3 to the awkward but brave Davids.

Hapoel Jerusalem mauls Maccabi Tel Aviv, 97-77 to grab nat'l hoops lead

ARYEH DEAN COHEN

BEATING Maccabi Tel Aviv at home is becoming habit-forming for Hapoel Jerusalem.

Paced by captain Adi Gordon and foreigner Billy Thompson, Jerusalem crushed Maccabi Tel Aviv 97-77 in Malha last night, the fourth time they've beaten Maccabi there in the past four years and sixth overall in that span, to stay undefeated (6-0) and take over first place in the league.

What was billed as the Gunfight at the Malha Corral turned out to be a one-sided affair, as Jerusalem's Billy Thompson (25), Norris Coleman (24) and Adi Gordon (23) were just too many gunslingers for coach Ralph Klein's club to handle.

To be fair, Maccabi came to the showdown of undefeated teams with less than all its ammunition. Tom Chambers again saw no action, and Jeff Kent's injury kept him in civilian clothes on the bench, alongside Guy Goodes. Maccabi players also appeared much slower going for loose balls, a possible result of fatigue after their overtime victory over Ortez Thursday night.

Goodes was the one Maccabi missed the most, although on this night, no one could have stopped Gordon. Pumping his fist at the crowd as the final seconds ticked off, he could be excused for celebrating a long way back from a bout with mononucleosis and exile in Holon before returning to lead his club to a commanding 6-0 start this season.

Whether threading his way nimbly through Maccabi defenders for lay-ups or hitting three-pointers, it was Gordon who led the way, assisted by Thompson who, in one of his finest games in Jerusalem, reminded the fans

that there was more than one NBA veteran in the gym. Meanwhile Coleman got sweet revenge against his former club, who dumped him after he played for Maccabi last year.

It was Coleman who got the Jerusalem onslaught underway with a three-pointer. Oded Katsch was unable to stay with Gordon, whose first bomb got the balloon-bedecked Hapoel fans out of their seats as Jerusalem raced to a 16-6 lead in the first four minutes of play.

Brazilian dancers and drummers were on hand to lead the cheers, and for a while it looked like Hapoel Jerusalem could dance all night. But the carnival atmosphere soon quieted down when some sloppy ballhandling and Doron Jamches (20 on the night) got Maccabi back within five.

Working the ball inside to center Radisav Curcic, Maccabi stayed in the game behind his 14 first-half points, but Goodes' offense was sorely missed as Katsch and Brad Leaf combined for only four points between them in the half.

That wasn't enough to offset Gordon's barrage: 4-4 from two point range and 2-3 three-pointers. In fact, it seemed like Jerusalem would burn up the floor, shooting 19-29 from the field in the half, with Thompson and Coleman getting 13 points apiece. When Gordon again slashed through the middle to score with just over a minute to play, Hapoel had built the lead back up to 50-39, before Curcic put in a rebound to make it 50-41 at halftime.

It was in the second half that Thompson, Gordon and Cole-

man slipped into overdrive, and Hapoel steamrolled over the defending champs. After first Coleman and then Gordon delivered three-pointers, Thompson took a jet from the foul line for an atomic stuff home of a miss by Papi Turgeman that gave Jerusalem its biggest lead to that point, 64-48.

But the worst was still to come for Maccabi. Doron Shefa (17 points) gave Klein - who coached him, Gordon and Jerusalem's Pini Levy in Holon last year - something else to worry about with a three of his own. Another Shefa three-pointer with 10 minutes left gave Jerusalem a 74-52 lead. That's when a tired Maccabi looked like they'd given up, especially when Coleman dunked off a steal to give Jerusalem its biggest lead of the night, 79-52, just a minute later.

To their credit, Maccabi battled back a bit, mostly behind Curcic and Katsch who had 11 second-half points. By then, however, Jerusalem coach Pini Gershon - whose Hapoel Galil Elyon squad Katsch and Leaf played for last year, when they were wiped out 3-0 by Maccabi in last year's championship series - had gotten sweet revenge for that loss, and Jerusalem stood alone at the top of the heap.

Jerusalem should not get too cocky, however, since it has a history of losing games after beating Maccabi Tel Aviv and faces Bnei Herzliya on the road in the next round of games on November 26. A win there would definitely mean Gershon's squad is the real thing among contenders to dethrone Maccabi. For Klein's club, the loss has to be a source of concern going into Thursday night's away game vs. Real Madrid in European Club Championships play.

Graham tells tale of misdeeds

LONDON (AP) - Former soccer manager George Graham, fired by Arsenal last season for accepting financial gifts from an agent, admitted yesterday he received £140,000 for recommending Peter Schmeichel and Andrei Kanchelskis to rival Manchester United.

Graham turned them down for Arsenal and suggested they move to Old Trafford. Schmeichel, a Danish goalkeeper, and Russian international winger Kanchelskis went on to become standout players in United's back-to-back league title triumphs in 1993 and '94.

According to the Sun newspaper, Graham was handed the

cash in £50-pound notes by Norwegian soccer agent Rune Hauge at the Park Lane Hotel in central London.

"Looking back, I should have said 'I'm not taking that,'" Graham told the Sun. "But it was a present. It wasn't asked for. It wasn't organized. He put it in my hand and said 'There you go.'"

Graham later received another £285,000 from the agent by bankers' draft paid into an account.

When Graham ran into problems with the British tax authorities, he declared the payments to Arsenal, whose owners fired him without compensation.

At the time, it was thought the payments were connected with

the transfers to Arsenal of Danish-based players Pal Lydersen, a Norwegian defender, and John Jensen, goalscoring star of Denmark's European Championship triumph in 1992.

Graham, who was banned by the FA for a year for breaking their rules by accepting gifts, told the Sun he received nothing from these transfers.

The FA said Graham is unlikely to face further disciplinary action over his new disclosures.

"Everything I have read so far appears to have been covered by the Commission of Inquiry," FA spokesman Steve Double said. "He was found guilty of the offenses and has been punished."

Holland police arrest suspected Leeds hooligans

AMSTERDAM (Reuters) - Eight British soccer fans were arrested and ordered to be deported yesterday after nearly 100 Leeds United supporters arrived in Eindhoven without tickets for Tuesday's UEFA Cup match against PSV Eindhoven, police said.

The fans were arrested for "violent and threatening behavior" in the center of Eindhoven and were scheduled to be sent back to Britain by ferry last night, police said.

"Eight fans were arrested near the stadium because they were aggressive and intimidating as they tried to get tickets," a spokesman for Eindhoven police told Reuters. "They have been handed over to the immigration police for deportation."

He said the town center was calm and there had been no further outbreaks of violence.

SCOREBOARD

Yesterday's soccer results:
Premier League
Bolton 1, Arsenal 0
Division Three
Doncaster 2, Cambridge 1

Juninho transfer to 'Boro still incomplete

MIDDLESBROUGH (Reuters) - Juninho trained with Middlesbrough yesterday, less than 24 hours after arriving at his new English club following his long flight from Brazil.

Middlesbrough is confident Juninho will make his Premier League debut at home to Leeds United on Saturday after a hitch over the transfer deal is amicably settled with Sao Paulo.

Club chief executive Keith Lamb said there were

no problems with the deal but that the first half of the £4.75 million transfer fee would not be paid until the international clearance certificate was received for the player.

Lamb added: "I understand the certificate is on its way. I won't put on any pressure unless the certificate has not arrived by Tuesday or Wednesday. We are confident Juninho will play against Leeds United."

ITV's 'hot' coverage gets cool reviews

ITV coverage of Maccabi Tel Aviv's "hot" winter of European play began Thursday, but the coverage proved a bit tepid for our taste.

It's not that the game wasn't exciting - Maccabi's overtime victory was a real nailbiter. It's just that the presentation of the games seems to remain static from year to year. Take the camera angles, for example: while NBA and college hoops feature above the basket cameras and other such innovations, our view of the Maccabi games seems to stay the same.

True, the folks from Romema have added some improvements: the amount of on-screen statistical information has been greatly expanded, with shooting percentages computed almost at a moment's notice. In fact, the on-screen graphics have even gone one step too far, in our opinion. Do we really need the upper right-hand corner clock reminding us how much time is left in every time-out taken?

Also, ITV should consider a color other than yellow for the stats - the graphics tend to get lost against the yellowish Yad Eliahu floor and the yellow Maccabi uniforms in the background.

New analyst Professor Gabi Ben-Dor, who's replaced Arye Maliniak, is also a problem. Ben-Dor seems to know quite a bit about basketball, but the color that comes to mind when assessing his job as "color man" is grey. He follows the game well, and knows the plays and tactics, but his delivery is less than scintillating. It's like hearing a basketball

SPORTSWATCH

ARYEH DEAN COHEN

game analyzed by a bookkeeper.

There were some other problems as well. Why did the ITV crew feel compelled to invade the Maccabi locker room to capture shots of injured guard Guy Goodes?

The report from sideline reporter Moshe Gertel on Guy's condition was enough - the player's privacy should have been respected after that. And why did Levy insist at halftime that "it's not a light injury - [he's] apparently going to be out for a long time," when in the end Goodes' injury turned out to be less serious? Play-by-play men shouldn't play doctor.

The commercial "train" which chugged across the screen every so often would have been acceptable had we not also been subjected to a barrage of "sponsorship" ads and an interminable number of promos for ITV shows at halftime, instead of some deeper analysis or feature item at the break. And someone should tell Elite to tone down the overkill on the MVP award section of the show. If the MVP is to be interviewed against a backdrop of Elite signs, is it really necessary to remind everyone who the spot is sponsored by before returning us to Levy and Ben-Dor?

It's great to have Maccabi back on the air, even if they do unfortunately bump Northern Exposure off the screen at that hour. Here's hoping the broadcasts are jazzed up a little both behind the

camera and the mike, so we have a really "hot" winter.

A FAR worse sin was committed by Sports Channel in its broadcast of the Rishon LeZion-Efess Pilsen game last Wednesday night. They flashed the wrong final score on the screen.

A viewer who was following the action was confused when the game seemingly ended 79-59, but Sports Channel - rushing to end their live soccer game coverage - flashed 81-57. Sports Channel should start the soccer pre-game coverage a little earlier, to allow for a proper wrap-up of the game.

THE World Series is now behind us, but there are a few lessons to be learned for Sports Channel's Opher Shelah and Amir Efrat. First of all, on balance, Shelah and Efrat did a superb job: bringing in Efrat to work with Shelah was a wise move, since his similarly encyclopedic grasp of the game was a welcome addition.

However, Efrat often jumped the gun, predicting plays that often went the other way.

Also, the two both should have talked far less. Especially in a series offering such a fine analyst as Tim McCarver, it would've been nice to hear more of what he and the other US broadcasters had to say, rather than have it regurgitated to us in Hebrew.

Blockbuster Video offers versions of movies without the translation. Sports Channel should similarly offer a choice of English-language sports broadcasts with or without Hebrew commentary.

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הגדל מן האל

Regional bank to be launched today

STEVE RODAN

AMMAN

AFTER intensive efforts by the US, the Amman economic conference will end today with the announcement of the establishment of a Middle East development bank.

But intense opposition from European and Gulf states could mire the new financial institution in disputes for the next few years, diplomats said.

US officials said the draft of the articles of agreement on the bank are nearly complete. The institution, called the Bank for Economic Cooperation and Development in the Middle East and North Africa, will be located in Cairo and begin with \$5 billion of capital.

Supporters of the bank were led by the US and Middle East participants at the conference. In a mandate being drafted for the bank, it will promote private sector growth, regional development projects and economic dialogue.

A senior US official acknowledged that Washington had been opposed to the bank. What changed the minds of Americans, the official said, was the support it had both among Israelis and Arabs, particularly, the Palestinians, Egypt and Jordan.

"It's unprecedented that the four regional parties came in and made a presentation, which is

what they did," the official said. European Union officials said they are concerned that the new bank will repeat the experience of their financial institution established to develop eastern Europe, which had been criticized as ineffective and bloated.

Paul Volcker, former head of the US Federal Reserve Board who has led studies of Middle East economies, agreed. "It [bank] should be small, not a monument to the city in which it's located," he said.

Already, the Saudis and the Gulf states have warned they will not serve as major financiers of the bank. European diplomats privately insisted they will seek other avenues to invest in the Middle East.

US officials said a task force will finalize details of the bank by the end of the year. Then, the charter will be ratified by the Europeans, Japanese, Americans and other involved in helping regional development, a process expected to take up to two years.

In another development, Energy Minister Gonen Segal arrives today in Amman where he is expected to sign an agreement with Qatar and a US firm for the supply of liquefied natural gas.

what they did," the official said. European Union officials said they are concerned that the new bank will repeat the experience of their financial institution established to develop eastern Europe, which had been criticized as ineffective and bloated.



Foreign Minister Shimon Peres meets with Moroccan Prime Minister Abdolatif Felal in Amman yesterday. (Reuters)

Peres spars with Arab media

STEVE RODAN

AMMAN

FOREIGN Minister Shimon Peres yesterday challenged the Arab world to abandon "hatred and prejudice" and work toward a prosperous Middle East.

Sparring with Arab journalists at the Amman economic conference over the future of Jerusalem, Peres urged them to concentrate on the future of the region. "Look at Asia, Latin America," he said. "The question is why not here. Many of you have to help out, not to be all the time with your head in the past with hatred and prejudice. Don't do it for us. Do it for yourselves."

He spoke at length on his vision of a new Middle East and his view of the region's history. He also recalled Palestinian leaders who rejected any accommodation with Jewish sovereignty.

"Nobody punished the Palestinian people more than the grand mufti of Jerusalem," he said, referring to the man who led the Arab rioting in 1936. He said he was glad that PLO chief Yasser Arafat is not following the mufti's example.

Peres then said the Arabs should learn from Israel's example and introduce computers in their schools. "You don't have to educate for what is known," he said. "You have to educate for what is unknown."

"There is no sense in accumulating knowledge about the past. There is sense in accumulating knowledge for the future. The future is not a repetition of past."

The journalists countered with charges about Israeli treatment of the Palestinians and the dispute over Jerusalem. Many of the questions focused on Israel's claim to Jerusalem as its capital.

Peres said Israel's position on the city is not open to change, and stressed that Jerusalem was never a Palestinian or an Arab capital.

"I see Jerusalem as spiritually open and politically closed," he said.

At one point, a journalist pointed out that the more than 800 million Moslems in the world, who disagree with Peres, far outnumber the Jews.

Peres appeared to take the comment as a threat. "What do you want, for Israel to commit suicide?" he said.

"What do you want, for Israel to be a collective (British author Salman) Rushdie?"

Some of Peres's aides appeared uneasy over the exchange. Later,

a diplomatic source said journalists identified with the Jordanian opposition managed to ask most of the questions, to the exclusion of the moderates.

"He was too aggressive," the source said of Peres's performance. "He clashed with them."

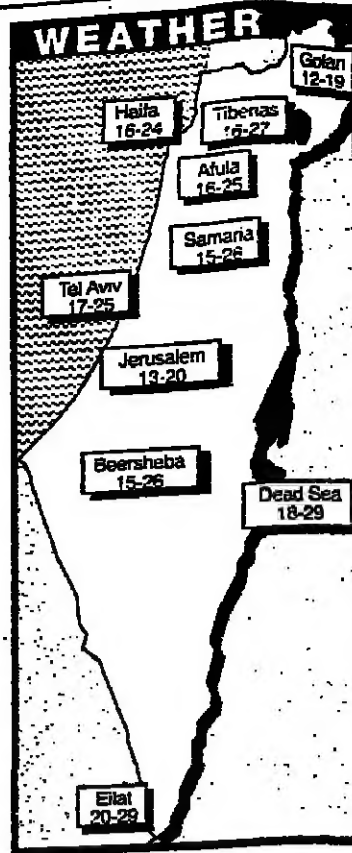
For their part, the journalists were sanguine. Some of them said they regarded Peres's vigorous defense of his government's position on Jerusalem as posturing for Israeli public opinion.

But several acknowledged that they, too, had an agenda. "As an

Arab journalist sent to a news conference with Peres, that's what we're expected to ask," one said.

Peres stressed Israel's concessions to the Arabs over the last 15 years. "We gave back all [of Sinai]," he said. "Did we get all the peace [from Egypt]? I'm not sure."

He explained Israeli concessions to the Palestinians as solving a national moral dilemma. "Nobody is threatening Israel militarily," he said. "It is neither weak nor poor. We did it basically out of a moral choice. We don't want to dominate the Palestinian people."



AROUND THE WORLD

	C	F	W	C	F	W
Amsterdam	10	50	12	54	14	57
Berlin	10	50	12	54	14	57
Buenos Aires	11	52	13	55	15	59
Cairo	17	63	19	66	21	69
Chicago	11	52	13	55	15	59
Frankfurt	10	50	12	54	14	57
Hong Kong	23	73	25	77	27	81
London	10	50	12	54	14	57
Los Angeles	18	64	20	68	22	72
Madrid	10	50	12	54	14	57
Moscow	10	50	12	54	14	57
New York	11	52	13	55	15	59
Paris	10	50	12	54	14	57
Rome	10	50	12	54	14	57
Sydney	18	64	20	68	22	72
Tokyo	18	64	20	68	22	72
Washington	10	50	12	54	14	57
Zurich	10	50	12	54	14	57

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the queen of spades, eight of hearts, ace of diamonds, and seven of clubs.

Rabin dismisses move to bar weapons from protests

DAVID MAKOVSKY

BOTH Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Attorney General Michael Ben-Yair dismissed as "impractical" a suggestion that anti-government protesters be forbidden to carry weapons while attending demonstrations, officials in the Prime Minister's Office who attended yesterday's cabinet meeting said.

The suggestion was made by Education Minister Amnon Rubinfeld, who said he feared that unless something is done, demonstrations could turn violent.

The issue came to the fore meeting after Housing Minister Binjamin Ben-Eliezer described how his car was attacked outside the Knesset as the Oslo 2 agreement was being debated.

However, neither Rabin nor Ben-Yair felt there is a practical way for police to enforce such a measure. Other ministers noted that a request not to bring weapons would also have little value, since many of the protesters are settlers who feel that weapons are needed to ensure their own safety on their way to and from the demonstration.

Meanwhile, while briefing ministers on his recent trip to the United Nations and his meeting with American Jewish leaders, Rabin reiterated his criticism against American Jewish critics who lobby Congress against his policies. He said lobbying against a democratically elected government constitutes violating a "red light," and therefore cannot be ignored.

International Shi'ite forum focuses on Jewish-Moslem ties

ELDAD BECK

PARIS

THE spiritual leader of the Shi'ite Moslem community in Europe, Iranian Ayatollah Mehdi Rouhani, has called for the establishment of peace between Jews and Moslems through dialogue and mutual tolerance.

Rouhani, speaking at yesterday's closing of a three-day international colloquium on Jewish-Moslem relations here, asserted that universal peace can be obtained neither by force nor with gold, but only through the rapprochement of hearts.

"I believe that Islam and Judaism comprise commandments and precepts which are similar and mutual, the knowledge of which could only lead to rapprochement," he said. "The

ignorance of this community of thought has often, throughout history, provoked fratricidal confrontation."

The colloquium was organized by ARARE (An Academic Response to Antisemitism and Racism in Europe), a group initiated by the Simon Weisenthal Center.

More than 50 religious leaders and academics from 20 countries participated in the meeting. Among them were Sheikh Rajai Abdo, the imam of Jericho; French Chief Rabbi Joseph Sitruk; and Prof. Raji Tami, of Casablanca's Hassan II Mosque.

Most of the speakers stressed the importance of a rapprochement between Jews and Moslems, not only because of the Middle East peace process, but because of the common problems confronting both communities in Europe: rising xenophobia and racism, identity and cultural crisis among the young, and religious fundamentalism.

All Moslem participants denounced violence and emphasized that Islam is a religion of peace that obliges its followers to respect both Jews and Christians.

"The true meaning of jihad is to overcome any feeling of revenge, even when a Moslem is attacked," said Abdo.

'Tens of thousands' expected at pro-gov't rally

TENS of thousands will attend the pro-government rally slated for Saturday night, rally organizer Shlomo Lahat said yesterday.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres will be the main speakers at a rally "for peace and against violence" to be held in Tel Aviv's Kikar Ma'aleh Yisrael at 7 p.m. on Saturday night, Lahat, former mayor of Tel Aviv, and businessman Jean Friedman announced at a press conference yesterday.

"The voice of the silent majority, those who believe that after decades of war, we need to make peace, even if we must take chances in a long and sometimes painful process, isn't being heard," Lahat said.

He said that 500 buses will bring demonstrators from all over the country. (Jim)

Christopher-Assad meet produces little results

DAVID MAKOVSKY, LIAT COLLINS and news agencies

US Secretary of State Warren Christopher held talks for three hours with Syrian President Hafez Assad in Damascus yesterday on ways to break the stalemate in the peace talks with Israel, officials said.

Christopher had little to say about the substance of the meeting, telling reporters in a statement at Damascus airport before heading for home only that he had had a "useful review" of the situation with Assad.

"We're going to stay in contact with them and keep on working on the problems," he said.

A senior US official said: "We feel we've got work to do, this is not something that's going to happen immediately."

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin reiterated to the cabinet once again yesterday that he will hold Syria to its spring promise to Christopher that it would dispatch military experts to meet with their Israeli counterparts on security arrangements.

Asked whether Israel would

pursue a peace agreement with Syria before the Israeli elections, Rabin said yesterday: "We have never put a limit in terms of a timetable. We are putting emphasis on the substance and procedures that were agreed on. It has become clear the Syrians are demanding that Israel change its position on certain issues regarding the security arrangements as a precondition for the continuation of the negotiations. This is not acceptable to us."

Rabin was speaking to a Labor faction meeting in the Knesset.

A senior US official said that Middle East peace coordinator Dennis Ross would pass through Israel on his way home later this week from the economic summit in Amman, and that it was possible he would meet Israeli officials.

Syria, meanwhile, lashed out at the economic summit in Jordan, saying it was a cover for attempts to erase the Arabs' identity.

"The so-called Middle Eastern project of the Amman economic summit is a mask which hides dangers. It is also a means to obliterate the name of the Arabs," Syrian state radio said.

It also accused the summit of attempting to "liquidate" the Arab League.

THE WAY WE WERE...



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